



**The Christ Community  
Culver, Indiana  
of  
The Order of Christian Workers**



**A Liturgy  
for a  
Sacred Communion  
of  
Healing**



# Welcome

to our Community  
and to our life together;  
we are honored by your presence,  
for we know that the stranger,  
as well as the friend,  
brings us the Christ-Spirit!

Please know that this is *Havurah*,  
the ancient Aramaic term which connotes  
“a circle or company of friends.”

This is truly a sacred meal, so please be at ease.

Please listen to the Christ-Spirit within you.

Please consider receiving the Blessing of the  
laying-on-of-hands.

Please feel free to share your prayers aloud when we offer  
petitions and thanksgivings.

Please know that *all* people who seek that Christ-Spirit  
within them are welcome at this *open* Table.

If you wish to receive communion, you may  
take the bread and the cup separately, or you  
may wish to dip the bread in the cup.

We affirm the words of the prophet Micah:

This is what Yahweh asks of you, only this:  
to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with  
your God...

Our prayer is that you will be with us often...

You are welcome to take this printed rite with you,  
and if you or others would like additional copies, please  
let us know....

[*The Community gathers in silence at the Table; a bell is rung and the Companion designated to act as Celebrant then begins:*]

### ✠ The Beckoning ✠

Celebrant: Namaste!

*People: Namaste!*

Celebrant: We gather in this sacred company, O God, seeking  
Your blessing of respite, Your balm of healing.

*People: Amid the tangled demands and busyness of our  
everydays, You always beckon us to Your Peace.*

Celebrant: Your Presence is wholeness in our struggles.

*People: Your Presence is peace in our turmoil.*

Celebrant: May You gather us to the health of Your bosom,

*People: so that we may offer amends to You, to ourselves,  
and to those with whom we live and struggle.*

Celebrant: May each of us search our souls for the Christ-Spirit  
which You have birthed within us;

*People: and , together, bless our common life in You:*

Celebrant: May peace be in this place, and in all who dwell  
herein;

*People: we make our hearts peaceful in sacred community.*

Celebrant: May we know that Your love surrounds us;

*People: above us, below us, around us, within us.*

Celebrant: May beauty surround us;

*People: let us be open to perceive it.*

Celebrant: May sacred emptiness surround us;

*People: that we may know our inner needs.*

Celebrant: May deep healing surround us;

*People: flowing within us, each and all.*

Celebrant: May we open our eyes and our ears,

*People: our hearts and our souls,*

Celebrant: to the Grace of New Life;

*People: to the Grace in our lives;*

Celebrant: to the Grace in community;

*People: all of which is the Grace of God!*

Celebrant: Thanks be to You, O God;

*People: And thanks be to our brothers and sisters;*

Celebrant: thanks be for the wonders we are offered each day;

*People: thanks be for all that we receive.*

Celebrant: Thanks be for the endless gift of Your Creation:

*People: the birds and beasts, the water and sky,*

Celebrant: the limitless universe and the abundant fruits of  
this island home we call Earth;

*People: the companionship of others,*

Celebrant: the love we are given,

*People: the gentle touches that we receive.*

Celebrant: Thanks be for the Gospel which reminds us daily  
that we are blessed in our poor spirits, in our  
grief, in our gentleness;

*People: Blessed in our hunger for justice, in our offering  
of mercy, in our quest for peace.*

Celebrant: We rejoice that You have given us words to  
proclaim everything that You have taught us,  
everything that we need to offer each day:

All: *Our Creator in heaven,  
hallowed be Your Name;*

*Your reign has come,*

*Your will be done*

*on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*Forgive us our trespasses,*

*as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*Strengthen us in the time of trial,*

*and deliver us from evil.*

*For the Dominion,*

*the Power,*

*and the Glory are Yours,*

*now and forever.*

*Amen.*

Celebrant: O Father God/Mother God, into Your healing and care we now offer ourselves,

*People: knowing that You wish only for our health and well-being;*

Celebrant: in our earthly concerns for others and ourselves, we know that You will hear our thoughts, our words, and our deepest hopes:

**[Companions offer their prayers of petition and thanksgiving, either silently or aloud]**

Celebrant: Allow us to hear You, O Eternal Comforter and Healer!

*People: Allow us to feel the special power of Your touch;*

Celebrant: to experience Your special healing of physical or emotional pain,

*People: of separation in our relationships,*

Celebrant: of resentments, jealousies, hurts,

*People: of all other earthly concerns which distance us or separate us from You...*

Celebrant: that again we may know the healing of Your Presence in our lives.

*People: We thirst for spiritual refreshment;*

Celebrant: we hunger for re-creation into wholeness.

*ALL: Anoint us, O God, with the Spirit of Your mercy!*

*[The people come forward to the Table, and, as they stand or kneel, the Celebrant (and an appointed Companion minister, if needed) proceeds to lay hands on each person, saying: "Receive the healing power of your Creator and Sustainer into your heart, your mind, your body, and your soul" or other healing words of God's grace; the Celebrant will then ask someone present to bless him/her in a similar manner]*

*[Silence is maintained for some moments...a bell is then rung three times to awaken the Community to New Life...and the Celebrant continues]*

Celebrant: We awaken to the sound of our continuing healing  
into New Life!

*People: We are now truly awake to the healing power of  
God within us and amongst us!*

Celebrant: For the Peace of God is now within you!

*People: And also within you!*

**[All those present now bless and greet  
each other]**

*[A bell is rung as the celebration continues...]*

### **✠ The Consecration ✠**

Celebrant: We gather at the Table, a place and a Spirit of  
perpetual hope and healing;

*People: Alleluia! Your mercy and healing is an  
ever-flowing stream of compassion and strength  
within us!*

Celebrant: As You beckoned Your company of Companions  
together for the celebration of holy *havurah*,

*People: So you call us to share this celebration together in  
Your Presence once again,*

Celebrant: Reminding us that we are healed and whole in the  
Spirit of the Christ.

*People: For he took bread,  
blessed it,  
broke it,  
and shared it with the words:*

Celebrant: [A bell is rung]“Feed yourself and others with this  
Bread of New Life, for of such nourishment is the  
Christ within you.”

*People: And he took the cup of common drink,  
blessed it,  
and offered it to all, saying:*

Celebrant: [A bell is rung]“My dearly beloved brothers and sisters, your thirst for New Life may now be quenched forever!”

*People: Let us share, then, these priceless Gifts we are offered!*

*[The Celebrant and another person then share the Gifts among the Community—saying, “Receive the Christ-Spirit which lives within you” and “The Cup of Hope” or other appropriate words; after all have been served, the Celebrant receives the Elements for those who are not physically present, and then continues:]*

Celebrant: Alleluia, we have been healed and fed in a new and eternal Covenant!

*People: Then let us go forth with the commitment and commission offered by our Companion, St. Francis:*

Companion: O Christ, make us instruments of your *peace*.  
Where there is hatred,

*People: let us sow love.*

Companion: Where there is injury,

*People: let us offer pardon.*

Companion: Where there is discord,

*People: let us seek union.*

Companion: Where there is doubt,

*People: let us acknowledge faith.*

Companion: Where there is despair,

*People: let us offer hope.*

Companion: Where there is darkness,

*People: let us shed light.*

Companion: Where there is sadness,

*People: let us enliven joy.*

Companion: Allow us to console; allow us to understand, allow us the Grace to love,

*People: for it is in giving that we receive;*

Companion: it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
*People: and it is in dying that we are born to New Life!*  
*Amen.*

**✠ The Blessing ✠**

Celebrant: Let us go forth, then, with all the saints, to offer  
amends, to share forgiveness, to feed and heal and  
bless and beckon!

*People: Yes!*

*Let us go forth as many in One!*

*Let us go forth to be the Body of the Christ!*

Celebrant: For the Blessing of God our Creator,  
God the Universal Christ, and  
God the Spiritual Manifestation of Grace and Hope  
goes with us all, now and forever.

*People: Amen! So be it! Amen!*

## **The Order of Christian Workers**

*An Ecumenical, Non-Denominational, Spiritual,  
and Charitable Community*

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✠ Blessed Companions, Worldwide ✠