ORDER FOR A SECOND TABLE

The following Order is to be used when the elements are taken from the church to the sick and the shut-in of the congregation. In such cases, at least one elder should be present with the minister.

It may be used also at a service in the afternoon or evening of the day when the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper has already been celebrated in the morning, and an opportunity is to be extended those who could not be present to partake. In this event, this Order shall be read after the sermon.

In no event is this Order to be used except in connection with the full Order for the celebration of the Sacrament. Nor is this Order to be considered as in any way a substitute for that service.

Sentences

Having taken his place at the Lord’s Table, the minister shall say:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Exhortation

Dearly beloved in the Lord, that you may now receive the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper to your comfort, let every one of you examine himself in heart and conscience, whether he believes God’s faithful promise that all his sins are forgiven him only for the sake of the passion and death of Jesus Christ, and whether he purposes henceforth to show true thankfulness to God in his whole life by walking uprightly before him and by living in love and peace with his neighbor. For all those who are thus minded, God will certainly receive in mercy and count them worthy partakers of the Table of his Son.

You are also to consider that, in instituting this holy Supper, our Lord Jesus Christ gave us a sure remembrance and pledge of his hearty love and faithfulness toward us. Doubt not that Christ himself will as certainly feed and nourish our souls unto everlasting life with his crucified body and shed blood at this bread is broken, this cup given, and we eat and drink in remembrance of him.
That we may obtain this grace, let us humbly bow before God and with true faith implore his favor.

Prayer

Let us pray.

O merciful God and Father, we pray thee that thou wilt be pleased in this Supper, in which we celebrate the glorious remembrance of the bitter death of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, to work in our hearts through thy Holy Spirit, that we may daily give ourselves up to him with true confidence, so that we may be fed and comforted with his true body and blood, yea, with him, true God and Man, that only heavenly bread.

Grant that we may no longer live in our sins, but he in us, and we in him, that we may be partakers of the new and eternal covenant of grace and reconciliation. Strengthen us by this holy Supper that we may not doubt that thou wilt forever be our gracious Father, never more imputing our sins to us, and providing us, as thy beloved children, with all things necessary both for body and soul.

Grant us also thy grace that we may take upon us our cross cheerfully, deny ourselves, confess our Savior, and in all tribulations with uplifted hearts expect our Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, where he will make our mortal bodies like unto his most glorious body and take us to himself in eternity; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who has taught us to say when we pray:

Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion

The minister shall then say:

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread (here he shall take the bread in his hand); and when he had blessed it, he broke it (here the minister shall break the bread) and gave it to them, saying,
“Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me.”

After the same manner also, he took the cup *(here the minister shall take the cup in his hand)*, when they had supped, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.”

*In distributing the bread, the minister shall say:*

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

*And in giving the cup:*

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

*When all have partaken, the minister may say:*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

**Prayer**

Let us pray.

O almighty, merciful God and Father, we render thee most humble and hearty thanks that thou hast of thin infinite mercy given us thine only begotten Son for a mediator and a sacrifice for our sins, and to be our meat and drink unto life eternal. Grant, we pray thee, O faithful God and Father, that, through the working of thy Holy Spirit, this commemoration of the death of our Lord Jesus Christ may tend to the daily increase of our faith and of our saving fellowship with him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The service may then be concluded in the usual manner.*

*For an alternate to this Order, see the rubric at the end of the Order for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, p. 70.*