

Sunday church – Communion: Eating and praying together

In the Jewish tradition it is the smallest child who asks the questions as to why the Passover is celebrated. It is the smallest child who asks the questions and allows the story to be told.

Child: Why are we here?

We gather together around this table to tell the stories that inspire our faith that help us become a community.

**We bring the things that we find difficult,
the things we cannot do alone.**

Child: Tell me the story about Jesus.

Jesus shared lots of meals with his friends and with ordinary people. He told stories of inviting people from the streets to great banquets; of a run-away son saying sorry and a father throwing a party. He told stories of tiny seeds growing into huge trees; he showed that by sharing a picnic lunch a crowd could be fed; he sat a child on his knee to show that the smallest ones are the most important of all.

Bible Reading

Child/young person: But why do we share bread?

The night before Jesus was killed, he shared a last meal with his friends, he took bread and broke it and said:

Child/YP: "this is my body broken for you"

[Somebody breaks the bread]

to show how he was broken on the cross,
to show that our world is broken by the things we do wrong.
When we share the bread...

Child/YP: we say sorry and ask God to forgive us

Forgive hearts consumed with selfish gain.

Turn our hearts toward love for others.

Forgive eyes longing for things that we know hold empty promises.

Turn our eyes toward your presence, your action, within us and around us.

Forgive hands that push people away.

Turn our hands to welcome the stranger, the outcast, the enemy.

Forgive feet kicking up dust on dead-end roads.

Turn our feet onto your path of justice and life.

By the grace of the forgiving, transforming One—Jesus Christ—

Forgive us, O God.

[Somebody shares the bread out]

We share food together

(After the meal)

Child/YP: *Why do we share wine?*

The night before Jesus was killed he shared a last meal with his friends. He took wine and gave thanks and said...

Child/YP: *“this is my blood poured out for you”*

[Somebody holds the cup]

to show that we are forgiven,
to show that we are loved by God,
to remind us to love one another,
to remind us that the small things are the most important.
to celebrate the hope of new life

**This is the good news: by God’s grace, we are forgiven.
By the Holy Spirit, we are being transformed.**

[Somebody shares the juice]

Share something to pray for in the coming week with the person next to you.

God who loves us very much, we have told new stories and listened to old stories.

We have said sorry and been forgiven.

We have become friends and learned that together we can do the things we find difficult but most of all we have celebrated that with your love there is hope of new life.

Amen.

Alexandra Elish, E1CC, 2015