

We cannot take wine and forget those who are thirsty.

Lord, put our fullness at the service of the empty.

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget the world at war or, if not at war, then preparing for it.

Show us quickly, Lord, how to turn weapons into welcome signs and the lust for power into a desire for peace.

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget our divisions.

Lord, heal our church in every brokenness. Amen

A Prayer for now and the future

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.

Lead us on.

Take us with you. Amen

Closing prayer and blessing

From where we are
To where you need us
Jesus now lead on

From the security of what we know
To the adventure of what you will reveal
Jesus now lead on

To refashion our world
Until it resembles the shape of your Kingdom
Jesus now lead on

Because good things have been prepared
For those who love God
Jesus now lead on.

Go now and as you go know this:
In grace you were created,
in mercy you have been sustained
in love you will be held for ever. **Amen**

*Adapted from Gathering for Worship,
The Lord's Supper: Storytelling/
Hungering for Justice*

SSG5 - Now & Future Kingdom

Chelmsley Wood
Baptist Church
Hedingham Grove,
Chelmsley Wood

Sacred Space

Worship and Communion

The Gathering

Gather us in, the lost and the lonely,
the broken and breaking,
the tired and the aching
who long for the life which is found in you.

Gather us in,
the done and the doubting, the wishing and
wondering,
the puzzled and pondering
who long for the company found with you.

Gather us in,
the proud and pretentious, the sure and
superior,
the never inferior,
who long for the levelling found in your
presence.

Gather us in,
the bright and the bustling,
the stirrers, the shakers,
the kind laughter makers
who long for the deeper joys
found with you here.
Gather us in.

The Peace

The peace is shared with the words:

The kingdom of God is justice and peace.
Let us then pursue
the things that make for peace.

Where lies abound,
you call us to speak truth:
we will speak truth.

Where greed takes all,
you call us to act justly:
we will act justly.

Where violence consumes,
you call us to live peacefully:
we will live peacefully.

Where death mocks us,
you call us to live in Christ:
we will live in Christ.

We long for the healing,
the accepting, the forgiving,
which Christ alone can offer.



**So may the peace of the Lord
rest within us and remain with us
today and always. Amen**

Lord's prayer

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not in to temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the
glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

Invitation

This is the table,
not of the Church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready
for those who love him
and who want to love him more.

So, come,
If you have much faith or if you have little,
if you have been here often
or if you have not been for a long time,
if you have tried to follow
or if you have failed.

Come, not because I have invited you:
But because our Lord has.
it is his will that those who want him
should meet him here.

Listen to a story of the Great Invitation.
Reading from Luke 14: 16 - 23

The story of the Lord's supper
Read from **1 Corinthians 11: 23a – 25**

So now, following Jesus' example and
command, we take this bread and this wine,
the ordinary things of the world which Christ
will make special.
As he said a prayer before sharing, let us
do so too.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**We thank you Lord
For when we were nothing,
you made us something.
When we had no name
and no faith and no future,
you called us your children.**

**When we lost our way or turned away,
you did not abandon us.
When we came back to you,
your arms opened wide in welcome.**

And now you prepare a table for us
offering not just bread, not just wine,
but your very self
so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed,
blessed and made new again. You are
worth all our pain and all our praise.

**So now, in gratitude, we join our voices
to those of the Church on earth and in
heaven:**

These words (the Sanctus) can be sung or spoken
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Sharing

Taking and breaking the bread

Among friends, gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread, broke it and said, 'This is
my body, it is broken for you':

Taking the cup of wine

And later he took the cup of wine and said,
'This is the new relationship with God, made
possible because of my death. Take this -
all of you - to remember me'

*The bread and wine are distributed as these
words are spoken*

Look,
here is your Lord coming to you
in bread and wine.

These are the gifts of God
for the people of God.

Prayers for others

Lord God,
as we share the richness of your table,
**we cannot forget the rawness of the
earth.**

We cannot take bread and forget those who
are hungry.
**Lord, put what we have at the service of
those in need.**