

Revised.

1980

22<sup>a</sup>

ABBREVIATED FORM FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(5 pages)

Institution | Brothers and Sisters,

The apostle Paul describes the institution of the Lord's Supper in I Corinthians 11:23-29.

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me". In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me". For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment upon himself.

Self-  
examination

If we are to celebrate the Lord's Supper for the strengthening of our faith, we must first examine ourselves.

Let everyone consider his sins and accursedness that he may humble himself before God.

Let everyone examine his heart whether he believes the sure promise of God that all his sins are forgiven him only for the sake of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ and that the perfect righteousness of Christ is freely given him as his own. Finally, let everyone determine whether he intends gratefully to serve the Lord with his entire life and to live in true love and harmony with his neighbour.

Invitation

and Admonition

All who by the grace of God repent of their sins, desire to fight against their unbelief and to live according to God's commandments will certainly be graciously received by God at the table of His Son Jesus Christ. They may be fully assured that no sin or weakness, which still remains in them

against their will, <sup>shall</sup> ~~will~~ keep God from accepting them in grace and granting them this heavenly food and drink.

But to all who do not truly grieve over their sins and do not repent from them, we declare that they have no part in the Kingdom of Christ. We admonish them to abstain from the Lord's Supper, lest they meet with heavier judgment.

### ~~The~~ Remembrance

of Christ Christ has commanded us to use this meal in remembrance of Him. At this table we remember that our Lord was sent by the Father into the world, partook of our flesh and blood, and from the beginning to the end of His life has borne for us the wrath of God. He was bound that we might be set free. He was innocently condemned to death that we might be acquitted at the judgment seat of God.

He let His blessed body be nailed to the cross and <sup>so</sup> ~~this~~ took our curse upon Himself to fill us with His blessing.

He was deserted by God that we might nevermore be forsaken <sup>by</sup> ~~of~~ Him: By His death and the shedding of His blood He has confirmed the new and everlasting covenant of grace when

John 19:30 He said, It is finished.

Assurance) <sup>Therefore,</sup> As often as we eat this bread and drink of this cup, we are as by a certain sign and seal reminded and assured of Christ's hearty love toward us. He died on the cross and shed His blood for us that He might feed our hungry and thirsty souls unto eternal life with His crucified body and shed blood, as truly as we receive this bread and drink in remembrance of Him.

Fellow- <sup>Truly,</sup> ~~By~~ His suffering and death Christ has obtained for us the ship Spirit of life. By this Spirit we are united with Him and receive all His gifts. The same Spirit unites us in brotherly ICor. 10:17 love as members of one body. Therefore we all, who are incorporated into Christ by true faith, shall be one body and show this to one another not just in words but also in deeds.

*Finally*  
Expectation of Christ's til He comes. We receive at His table a foretaste of the coming abundant joy which He has promised and look forward to the marriage feast of the Lamb when He will drink the wine new with us in the Kingdom of His Father.  
Mark 14:25  
Rev. 19:7 Let us rejoice and give Him the glory, for the marriage feast of the Lamb is coming!

Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God and Father,

We thank Thee that Thou hast given us thine only Son as a sacrifice for our sins and as our food and drink unto eternal life.

We pray Thee, ~~that Thou wilt~~ work in our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit through this Supper that we entrust ourselves more and more to Thy Son Jesus Christ, so that we do not live in our sins, but He in us and we in Him.

Strengthen our faith that Thou wilt forever be our gracious Father who gives us all things necessary for body and soul. Grant us thy grace that we cheerfully take up our cross, deny ourselves and confess our Saviour.

Teach us to expect our Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, who will make our lowly bodies like His glorious body and take us to Himself in eternity.

Amen.

The hearts upward!

*Christ,*  
In order to be nourished with the true heavenly bread, ~~Christ,~~ let us not cling to the outward symbols of bread and wine, but lift up our hearts to Jesus Christ, our Advocate at the Father's right hand.

Let us surely believe that we will be nourished with His body and blood as certainly as we receive this bread and drink in remembrance of Him.

Communion

(When he breaks the bread, the minister shall say:)

The bread which we break is a participation in the body of Christ. Take, eat, remember and believe that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.



(And when he gives the cup:)

The cup of blessing, for which we give thanks, is a participation in the blood of Christ. Take, drink from it, all of you, remember and believe that the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was poured out for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

(During the communion some suitable portion of Scripture may be read and a psalm or hymn be sung).

Doxology (After the communion the minister shall say:)

Psalm 103: Beloved in the Lord,

1-4;

8-13

Now that the LORD has nourished us at His table, let us together praise His Name with thanksgiving.

Bless the LORD, o my soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy Name!

Bless the LORD, o my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love towards those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities His children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him.

Therefore my heart and my mouth will proclaim the praise of the LORD from now on and for evermore. Amen.

Thanksgiving

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 also have forgiven our debtors;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from the evil one,  
For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory,  
for ever, Amen.