

BREAD

Bread is a symbol of the body of Christ, broken for us. Bread reminds us that God sustains, nourishes, and cares for us, and reminds us of the importance of sharing meals with one another. Jesus talks about bread as a symbol of his life and his mission and invites us to a heavenly feast where we will be in the full presence of God.

Scripture references: Exodus 16; Psalm 23:5; Matthew 9:9-11; John 6; Luke 24:13-25; Acts 2:46-47; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you
with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



WINE

Wine is a symbol of the blood of Christ, shed for us. Blood was used to establish the covenant between God and God's people, and wine reminds us of God's new covenant with us, marked by Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Jesus speaks of wine as a symbol of the heavenly banquet, where we will celebrate together in full relationship with God.

Scripture references: Exodus 12:1-28, 24:3-8; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 26:27-29; 1 Corinthians 11:25-26.



CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. May we be present in the world, in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.