

Reflections on the Service *Take time to reflect on the following questions. Draw or write your thoughts in a journal or on a piece of paper.*

How did you feel about this Communion service?

Have your thoughts and feelings about a communion ceremony changed in any way?

Have you experienced a communion ceremony in other settings, including other U-U settings or “alternative” communion ceremonies perhaps outside of a church setting?

Sharing *Listen deeply as members share their reflections. Do not respond at this time; just listen.*

Discussion *This is a time to supportively respond to something another person said or to relate additional thoughts that may have occurred as others shared.*

Resources:

The hymn, readings and prayers can be found in *Singing the Living Tradition* published by the Unitarian Universalist Association, Boston, 1993.

The sermon was adapted from a Communion Service by the Reverend Kinga-Reka Zsigmond that was delivered in Bedford, MA December 26, 1999

Notes

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* The asterisk used in this curriculum in Unitarian*Universalism stands for “and/or” to include Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist groups that are part of our international movement. The flower shape of the asterisk helps remind us that we are part of an ever-changing garden.

International Council of Unitarians and Universalists



Hungary

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.” Luke 22:19-20

Call to Worship*Ringing of the bell***Chalice Lighting**

(#452)

Marjorie Montgomery

Life is a gift for which we are grateful.
 We gather in community to celebrate
 the glories and the mysteries of this great gift.

Responsive Reading

(#726)

*Robert Eller-Isaac**(based on Matthew 25)*

I was hungry and you gave me food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

*I was a stranger to you and you welcomed me,
 I was naked and you clothed me.*

I was sick and you visited me,
 I was in prison and you came to me.

*Here is the bread of life, food for the spirit.
 Let all who hunger come and eat.*

Here is the fruit of the vine,
 pressed and poured out for us.
 Let all who thirst now come and drink.

*We come to break bread.
 We come to drink of the fruit of the vine.
 We come to make peace.*

May we never praise God with our mouths
 while denying in our hearts or by our acts
 the love that is our common speech.

*I come to be restored in the love of God.
 I come to be made new as an instrument of love.*

I know that I am worthy.
 I know that I am welcome.
 All are worthy.

All are welcome.

Come into the embrace and remembrance
 of this communion.

Sermon

Our Communion Service by the Rev. Kinga-Réka Zsigmond (*The sermon is in Unit 3, pp. 23-24, in the curriculum, The Garden of Unitarian-Universalism*).

Prayer

(#442 adapted)

*Richard S.**Gilbert*

We bid you welcome, who come with weary spirit seeking rest. We bid you welcome, who come with hope in your heart. Whoever you are, whatever you are, wherever you are on your journey, we bid you welcome.

Uncovering of God's table**Blessing of the communion**

Luke 22:19-20

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Sharing of the Communion**Covering of God's Table****Closing Prayer**

(#711)

Numbers 6

May the Eternal bless you and protect you!
 May the Eternal Smile on you and favor you!
 May the Eternal befriend you and prosper you!

Benediction

(#677)

The peace which passeth understanding
 the peace of God,
 which the world can neither give nor take away,
 be among us, and abide in our hearts.

Hymn (#413)*(Sing 3X,**or as a round)***Go Now in Peace**

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
 May the love of God surround you,
 Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Extinguish the Chalice

(#713)

1 Corinthians 16

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith,
 be courageous, be strong.
 Let all that you do be done in love.

(Service continued on back)