

# CCTP Order of Service

*4 February 2024*

*Preparation for Lent 2 (The Prodigal)*

*[Dinner begins with “As We Gather” and open-prayer.]*

## 1. Entrance

*[Singing] Psalm 134*

**C**ome, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,  
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place**

**and bless the Lord!**

The Lord bless you,

He who made heaven and earth!

*Songs.*

## 2. Purgation

There are only two Sundays until Great Lent.

*Exhortation to Repentance*

**B**rothers and sisters, let us fathom the meaning of this mystery.  
For when the Prodigal son fled back to his father's home,  
the good father came out to meet him and kissed him,  
giving to the Prodigal son once again his former glory,  
and rejoicing on high, he sacrificed the fatted calf.  
Let our lives, then, be worthy of the prodigal-befriending Father  
who offered the glorious sacrifice — the Savior of our souls.  
**O God, be merciful to me, a sinner! (3x)**

*[Silence for examination.]*

*Open to Me + Psalm 51*

**O**pen to me the gates of repentance, O Giver of Life;  
for I seek Your holy temple,  
bearing the defiled temple of my body.  
Cleanse it, You who are compassionate,  
by Your merciful love.  
As I ponder the multitude of evil I have done,  
I tremble for the day of judgment.  
But like David, I trust Your compassionate mercy,  
and cry to You:

**Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to Your merciful love;  
according to Your great compassion,  
blot out my transgressions.**

*Prayers of Repentance of the Prodigal*<sup>1</sup>

**O** great are the blessings, which in my wretchedness I have deprived myself!  
I have fallen from the kingdom in my misery!

I have wasted the riches given me,

I have transgressed the commandments.

Woe is me, O my soul!

You are condemned to the eternal fire.

Therefore, before the end, cry out to Christ God:

Receive me as the Prodigal son, O God,

and have mercy on me.

**Wash me completely from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

I have wasted the wealth which the Father has given me,

and in my wretchedness I have fed with the dumb beasts,

yearning for their food, I remained hungry and without my fill.

But I now return to the compassionate Father and cry out with tears:

I fall down before Your loving-kindness,

receive me as a hired servant and save me.

**Create a pure heart for me, O God;  
renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

I have wasted, and in my wretchedness spent,

all the riches You have given me, O Savior,

and having lived prodigally, I have been deceived by the demons.

Therefore, turn me back,

and accept me as the Prodigal,

O compassionate Father, and save me.

---

<sup>1</sup> From the Lenten Triodion, the Sunday of the Publican.

**Do not cast me away from Your presence;  
take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

O Good One, I have departed far from You;  
but forsake me not, neither reject me from Your Kingdom.  
The evil enemy has stripped me and taken all of my wealth;  
I have squandered, like the Prodigal, the good gifts given to my soul.  
But now I have arisen and returned, and to You I cry aloud:  
“Make me as one of Your hired servants.”  
For my sake, on the cross You stretched out Your sinless hands,  
to snatch me from the evil beast  
and to clothe me once again in my first garments,  
for You alone are bountiful in mercy.

**Restore in me the joy of Your salvation;  
sustain in me a willing spirit.**

*1 Timothy 1:15*

**T**he saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:  
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,  
**of whom I am chief.**

*Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

**O** Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
Who are in all places and fill all things,  
Treasury of Good and Giver of Life:  
Come and abide in us.  
Cleanse us from every stain  
and save our souls, O Good One.

### 3. Illumination<sup>2</sup>

*[Standing] The Blessing*

**L**et us stand, for it is time for the Lord to act.  
Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*[A woman places Communion on the table and lights the candles.]*

*[Singing] Epiphany Hymn + Hymn of the Prodigal*

**T**he Lord is my light and my Savior,  
**whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

O Father, foolishly I ran away from Your glory,  
and in sin, squandered the riches You gave me.

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,  
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

Therefore, I cry out to You with the voice of the Prodigal,  
"I have sinned before You, Compassionate Father."

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,  
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

"Receive me, Father, in repentance,  
and take me as one of Your hired servants."

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,  
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

---

<sup>2</sup> Or "Ascension," for his is where we ascend and enter into the heavenly realm. The candle symbolizes this entrance and our offering of thanksgiving is our gift.

*[Singing]*

**O** Gladsome Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!  
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing Your praises, O God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
You are worthy at all times  
to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

*Psalm 137*

**B**y the rivers of Babylon,  
there we sat and wept,  
remembering Zion;  
**on the poplars that grew there  
we hung up our harps.**  
For it was there that they asked us,  
**our captors, for songs,  
our oppressors, for joy.**  
“Sing to us,” they said,  
“one of Zion’s songs.”  
**O how could we sing  
the song of the Lord**

**on foreign soil?**

If I forget you, Jerusalem,

**let my right hand wither!**

O let my tongue cleave fast to my palate

if I remember you not,

**if I prize not Jerusalem, the first of my joys!**

Remember, O Lord,

**against the children of Edom**

the day of Jerusalem,

**when they said, "Tear it down!**

**Tear it down to its foundations!"**

O daughter Babylon, destroyer,

**blessed who repays you the payment paid to us!**

Blessed who grasps and shatters your children on the rock!

**Amen.**

*[Singing]*

**T**he Lord is my light and my Savior,  
**whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

*Luke 15:11-32*

*Hymn of the Prodigal*

**O** Father, foolishly I ran away from Your glory,  
and in sin, squandered the riches You gave me.

Therefore, I cry out to You with the voice of the Prodigal,

"I have sinned before You, Compassionate Father.

Receive me in repentance and take me as one of Your hired servants."

*[Standing] The Creed: Colossians 1:15-20*

**C**hrist is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation.

For by Him all things were created,  
in heaven and on earth,  
visible and invisible,  
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities —  
all things were created through Him and for Him.  
He is before all things,  
and in Him all things hold together.  
He is the head of the body, the church.  
He is the beginning,  
the firstborn from the dead,  
that in everything He might be preeminent.  
For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven,  
making peace by the blood of His cross. Amen.

*Greeting: The light of Christ is upon us! Let us greet one another.*

*Sermon.*



## 4. Communion

*[Singing]*

**Y**ou hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father. (2x)  
**Lord have mercy! Christ have mercy! (2x)**

*Prayers.*

*[Standing + Singing] The Offering: Psalm 141*

**I** have called to You, O Lord.  
**Hear me Lord!**

O make haste to help me, Lord.

**Hear me Lord!**

Hear my voice; I cry to You.

**Hear me Lord!**

**Let my prayer be as incense before You,  
the raising of my hands like the evening offering.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**T**hank You, Most High God, that you hear us; and that through Christ we  
may call You our Father, and pray as one:

**Our Father...**

*Thanksgiving for the Cup [Raising the Cup]*

**W**e give You thanks, our Father,  
for the Holy Vine of Your servant David  
which You revealed to us through Your servant Jesus —

the True Vine, in whom we bear fruit.

**To You be glory forever!**

*Thanksgiving for the Bread [Raising the Bread]*

**W**e give You thanks, our Father,  
for the life and knowledge  
which You revealed to us through Your servant Jesus —  
the Bread of Life, given for the life of the world.

**To You be glory forever!**

*[The Bread is broken.]*

**J**ust as this broken bread was scattered over the hills as grain  
and has been gathered together and made one;  
so may Your church be gathered together  
from the ends of the earth into Your kingdom.

**Gather us into Your kingdom. Amen.**

*The Invitation to Holy Communion*

**J**esus said, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.”

*[Congregation receives and partakes in Holy Communion during the song.<sup>3</sup>]*

*Thanksgiving for Communion*

**W**e give You thanks, our Father,  
for You have fed us with the life of Christ.

---

<sup>3</sup> A blessing may be said over each recipient as the bread is received.

May we be healed, body and soul;  
made us partakers of Your divine nature;  
and rescued from the corruption of sin.  
O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
**for His mercy endures forever!**  
O give thanks to the God of gods;  
**for His mercy endures forever!**  
O give thanks to the Lord of lords;  
**for His mercy endures forever!**

## 5. Benediction

*Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

**L**ord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
Where there is sadness, joy;  
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled, as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen.

*The Mystery of Faith*

**C**hrist has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.  
**Maranatha!**

*Announcements:*

- Progressive House Blessing
- (Last-Sunday Potlucks)
- Prayer: Sunday, 4pm
- Home fellowships
- Agape Box

*[Standing and Singing] The Benediction<sup>4</sup>*

**T**he Lord bless thee...

---

<sup>4</sup> “God’s presence is never neutral; the result of engaging him must ever be either blessing or judgment. Meeting with God through the way he has opened leads to benediction, while approaching YHWH through a manner he himself has not ordained results in judgment. One reason why this is so is because the unclean cannot come into contact with the holy without being destroyed.” (L. Michael Morales, *Who Shall Ascend the Mountain of the Lord?: A Biblical Theology of the Book of Leviticus*, 140.)