

# LITURGY FOR A SHARED MEAL

The Season of Lent: Week 4

## OPENING GREETING

*Leader:* I lift my eyes up to the hills,  
where does my help come from?

*All:* My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Leader:* Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant,  
for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure.  
Through the forty years of your people's desert wanderings  
you were constant in fire and cloud;  
with manna and mercy you sustained every step.  
You made Jesus' temptation of forty days  
a theater of truth where your Word stood strong.  
In every age you have shaped your people  
through times of wilderness and wandering, of temptation and trial,  
and brought them into the land of promise and the life of covenant.  
And so with all who have walked the wilderness way in every time  
and all you walk it this day, with angels and archangels,  
and all the company of heaven, we join the unending hymn:



Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here be-low. Praise



him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host. Praise Father, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

## REMEMBERING GOD'S STORY

Invite another individual or multiple people to read (or even "present") the following three texts.  
If kids are present, they can read too—notice the length of each passage is indicated by a gray bar.

*Leader:* Hear now the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke.  
After each reading, I will state a truth presented in the Gospel,  
and we can all respond with, "Amen."

(*"Amen"* is of Hebrew origin and means "so be it").

*Matthew 9:9-13* is read

*Leader:* Those in need are invited to eat with God.

*All:* Amen.

*Mark 14:22-26* is read

*Leader:* Those who eat with God  
are invited into relationship (i.e. covenant) with him.

*All:* Amen.

*Luke 24:36-49* is read

*Leader:* Those in relationship with God  
are empowered to be his witnesses.

*All:* Amen.

## PRAYER OF BLESSING

*Leader:* Redeemer God, over forty days you flooded the earth,  
over forty years you led your people through the wilderness,  
and over forty days your Spirit led Jesus through the desert.  
As we journey through the wilderness of this social fast,  
bless us through this food and drink  
to live lives that resemble that of Christ.  
Send down your Holy Spirit,  
that this table might be longer and wider than we can see,  
so that we may be united through faith to those present,  
those absent, and to you, our Lord and Savior.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Leader:* And now, with glasses raised, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

*All:* 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

## THE MEAL

*Leader:* Let's eat, recognizing that it is through a meal  
that we have fellowship with God and with each other.

Portion of Prayers taken from:

Samuel Wells & Abigail Kocher. *Eucharistic Prayers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2016.