

Communion Liturgy
(Coming Out)

Invitation:

One: You are invited to come out fully into the warmth of Divine Light. Soak up the rays of a truth that will set you free. At this table the hospitality you see it what you will experience, nothing hidden, no illusions, and nothing misleading. All are welcome to receive this mean of grace. All are invited to enjoy its many benefits.

Confession:

All: We are skittish. We are a little gun shy. We have found a comfort in being hidden from view. We don't want to be hurt. We don't want to become embarrassed. We want to trust You, Lord, but we don't. We hide what we believe. We are afraid we might miss speak and find ourselves in trouble. Help us to come out into Your all revealing light. Give us the courage to stand before You as we really are. We don't want to hide any longer. Jesus call our name and we will answer. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

One: God knows all about you. Jesus calls you by name. God accepts you without reservation. In the name of Jesus, you have always been forgiven. Come into the light.

All: God knows all about you too. Jesus calls you by name. God accepts you without reservation. In the name of Jesus, you have always been forgiven. Come into the light.

Thanksgiving:

One: God is light

All: and in Them nothing is obscured.

One: As we walk in this light

All: we build fellowship with everyone.

One: With unspeakable joy

All: we can all be who we really are.

One: You have cast Your light upon us,
and have found someone to love.
You have searched our souls,
and have found all that is true,
everything that is honorable,
You find what is just, pure, and pleasing to You.
You pinpointed all that is commendable within us.
You find joy in our excellence,
and have discovered so much that is worthy of praise.
You have found a goodness that we had forgotten was ever there.

This is why our hearts sing,
and as Your light shines upon the lives of others,
they join with us in our praise,
as does all the voices in heaven proclaiming:

**All: When Light shone on us,
It was like we were dreaming.
Laughter filled our souls.**

**We shouted with joy.
We proclaimed to the nations:
“That Love does great things!”**

**Great things for us all!
Our fortunes have been restored,
Streams in the desert.**

**We’ve sown in tears.
We now reap with shouts of joy.
All those who now weeping,**

**With seeds for sowing.
Shall now come home rejoicing,
Carrying their sheaves.** (Psalm 126)

One: God’s light does fill us with joy,
and the life of Jesus is a lamp unto our feet and a light for our path.
Jesus focused Your light upon the lives of all those who struggled,
those who were shunned by society and treated as untouchable.
Jesus shown the light of You love on the oppressed,
the distressed, and the repressed.
Helping everyone view humanity under a new light.
When Lazarus was locked away in the deathly darkness of the tomb,
Jesus invited him to come out into the light of day.

When Jesus’ followers met together in the upper room,
Jesus was the one who chose the servant’s role,
shining the spotlight on true greatness and
importance of compassionate service.
We too are invited to walk in the light of God’s love.

When Jesus blessed the Passover bread,
bread that revealed the continuing needs of the oppressed.
Jesus broke this bread and shared it with all the disciples and their families:
“Eat with me, this is my body broken and shared with you.”
We too are invited to walk in the light of God’s love.

When Jesus blessed the Passover wine,
that revealed the continuing hopes of the beloved community.
Jesus filled the cup and shared with all the disciples and their families
“Drink with me, this is the cup of my blood,

poured out to celebrate God's everlasting covenant of grace,
granting forgiveness of your every sin and those committed by anyone else.
We too are invited to walk in the light of God's love.

God's light has shone brightly upon our lives.
It has shone for us most clearly in Jesus,
whose holy mystery we embrace as our own
as we declare publicly:

**All: We are illumined by Christ's death.
We are illumined by Christ's resurrection.
We are illumined by the hope of Christ's return.**

One: Refreshing Dawn, Fresh Revelation,
shine upon these gifts of bread and wine
allowing us to see with clarity the body and blood of Christ,
Your gift to all.

Refreshing Dawn, Fresh Revelation,
shine upon our lives: our devotion, our involvement, our sacrifice, and our testimony
allowing the world to see with clarity, Your church,
the brilliant person and glowing bride of Christ,
Your gift to all.

Refreshing Dawn, Fresh Revelation,
shine upon Arnold Mills United Methodist Church
reveal to them the lives You hope to touch through their care,
enlighten them about truths You have yet to teach them,
point out to them Your profound delight in them.

**All: We pray because we want everyone to know Jesus is the light of the World.
We pray because we want everyone to feel the warm glow of Holy Ghost fire.
We pray because we need the touch of our Creator filling us with imagination,
curiosity, and creativity, that our ministry might bring the Holy Trinity, all the
glory, honor and praise due Their name. Amen.**

One: Now let us pray following the pattern Jesus taught us:

**All: You are Love and You are Light,
whose splendor fills not only the heavens but also the earth.
It is Your name that fills us with a lasting peace.
Every single day our provision comes from you, to feed us and our neighbor.
In Your great mercy You forgive us,
and inspire us to extend the same forgiveness to others.
Keep us focused on Your ways, so we don't start following the ways of others.
For You give us the freedom to show the world who we truly are, who You truly are,
and who they might become through Your grace. Amen.**

Sharing in Holy Communion:

Prayer after communion:

All: Thank you, thank you, thank you, Lord, for the privilege of sharing in this meal of grace provided through Jesus Christ. Your light has shown us Your grace and illuminated the way we desire to live. Now it is time for us to come out before the world as Your disciples. May the Light of Your presence guide our steps, our lips, and every act so that You might receive all the praise. Amen.