

Service of Communion for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
(*Carry Only Peace*)

Invitation:

One: Come and find a peace that only Christ can give. Christ accepts all, just as they are. Come and find that you have a place at this table and that true fellowship awaits you in Christ.

Confession:

All: We admit that we are afraid. We don't have the resources we believe we need for ministry. We feel we need more money. We need more people to carry the load. Yet you say go into all the world with nothing, but peace to share. And not to worry if even that is not accepted, but to just keep going, sharing peace. We want to believe that this is enough, so please help our unbelief. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

One: Silver or gold you don't really need. In the name of Jesus Christ, arise, your sins are forgiven.

All: You don't really need silver nor gold either. In the name of Jesus Christ, arise, your sins are forgiven. Praise be to God. Amen.

Thanksgiving:

One: We are sent out as lambs to the slaughter,

All: We are sent out with just the clothes on our back and no money to our name.

One: What we do have, is faith in Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: We have the peace Christ has breathed into our souls.

One: We are sent out filled with love, joy, peace, and patience.

All: We are sent out filled with kindness, generosity, faithfulness, kindness and self-control.

One: Your blessings are pressed down, filling our lives;
in fact they over flow to provide blessings for us to share with others.
We have a peace that is not as the world gives,
but one that comes only from having You in our lives.
A river of life flows from our lives
baptizing the world around us in your grace.

We praise you for the richness of these blessings.

All the lives we touch with your grace join us in praising you.

The saints who have gone before us fill the heavens with your praise
and the world stands amazed as we proclaim:

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

One: We are filled with praise to the one who supplies all our needs,
and Christ who has given us the free gift of salvation.
Christ is the promise of peace on earth and good will to all,
not the promise of wealth and power.
Christ, the one who sends us out into the world with only peace to share.
Christ, the one who empties himself for the sake of others.
Christ, who views service as a call to greatness,
the one who invites us to join in humbly washing the feet of others.

Because it is more important to give than receive,
Jesus thanked God for the blessing of shared bread,
breaking it and passing it to all, saying:
“Share a piece, this is my body broken and given for you.”
This is important to remember and to share with others.

Because it is more important to give than receive,
Jesus thanked God for the blessing of the shared cup,
pouring the wine and passing it to all, saying:
“Take a sip, this is the cup of my blood,
poured out in celebration of God’s eternal covenant.
A promise to you and all humanity that all sins are forgiven.”
This is important to remember and to share with others.

We shall never forget and will always share
this glorious mystery we have experienced in Christ:

All: Christ died, Christ arose, Christ will return.

One: All Sufficient, Abundant Life
fill these gift of bread and wine,
so they become for us the body and blood of Christ,
filling every need.

All Sufficient, Abundant Life
fill these gifts of our lives, our ministry, and our devotion
so that they become for the world, your church
the body and bride of Christ,
filling every need.

All Sufficient, Abundant Life
reassure all those of the Choptank Charge
that they need nothing but you.
Wherever they go, send them with your peace.
What ever they do, empower them with your miraculous love.
Send them out supplying their every need in Christ Jesus their Lord.

All: Jesus, hear our prayer! You are all we need.

**Holy Spirit, hear our cries! You are all we need.
Creator of the universe, hear our pleas! You are all we need.
To you belong all our love, our hopes, and devotion, always. Amen.**

One: Now hear us as we pray with the words Christ gave 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

All: Thank you, for allowing us to share together in this holy mystery. You have reminded us that when you send us out with nothing, we still have you, your love and your peace. We need nothing more. Now send us on our way with your blessing, so that we might share your blessings and grace with others. May all the world be filled with your peace and rejoice in your presence. Amen.