



# Worship resources



for the 2025 Advent Offering

**Theme: “Eat this bread”**

## ***Invitation to the offering***

The service of communion in which we will soon participate, offers strong words of faith from our spiritual sisters and brothers. In particular, we can turn our attention to the words “bread... which has come forth from the earth and human hands have made.” \* As we receive the bread in remembrance of Jesus, we also celebrate the person who made this bread, our relationship with one another, and our interconnectedness with all of creation. Indeed, as we eat this bread, we find peace through what Christ has done and, just like him, we participate in an harmonious relationship with all of creation.

Today we are collecting gifts for the Advent Offering which supports the Core Ministries of the Church of the Brethren. This special offering highlights how we extend generosity and witness through engaging our neighbors, seeking justice, and sharing the holistic peace of Jesus Christ. Just as we share bread that provides nourishment for our bodies, so also do we share our financial resources to continue the work of Jesus and provide for the physical and spiritual wellbeing of all people.

## ***Prayer for communion***

Loving God,  
We thank you for this bread and this cup that we have to share,  
which has come forth from the earth and human hands have made.  
May we know your presence in the sharing, and recognize your love in all things.  
In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

## ***Invitation to communion***

The table of the Lord is now to be made ready. It is the table of the company of Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So, come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;  
you who have been here often and you who have not been away for a while;  
you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have struggled and failed.  
Come, for it is the Lord Jesus, the bread of life for the world, that welcomes us here.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." And after supper, Jesus also took the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant of my blood poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink of it in remembrance of me." For whenever we eat this bread or drink this cup, we proclaim the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus until he returns.

Let us now receive communion.

*Elements distributed.*

### ***Benediction***

Nourished by the life of Jesus,  
let us go, sharing Christ with all people  
with hope, peace, and love.

\* Claiborne, Shane, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, and Enuma Okoro, *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010), 564.