

***A Service of  
The Holy Eucharist and Healing  
A Ritual of Reconciliation***

**The Salutations:**

*Presider:* Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

*People:* *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

*Presider:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord.

*People:* *Amen.*

**The Collect:**

*Presider:* Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified; Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Presider and People:* O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one whole bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind, and one mouth, glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Reading:** *Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

**The Psalm:** *Ps. 133 (read in unison)*

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,  
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head  
that runs down upon the beard.

Upon the beard of Aaron,  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:  
life for evermore.

### **The Holy Gospel:** *Matthew 15: 10-20; 21-28*

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand. It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile. Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canannite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

### **The Homily:**

### **A Ritual for Forgiveness and Reconciliation:**

*The congregation faces each other across the aisle, and reads the following in unison, with silence between each petition.*

- Tonight, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please state your name aloud) acknowledge that I have held onto feelings about people in this parish and diocese that are hurtful to me, to them and to the community of Emmanuel Church and to the Diocese of Lexington.  
Forgive me, Lord.
- I ask your help in releasing all resentments and hardness of heart.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in releasing the blame that I have placed on others.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help so that I will not let events of the past have power over my present, or the life of my church.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in letting go all that would keep me paralyzed in the past, that I may allow these matters to be closed.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in letting go all feelings of vengeance and revenge.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in letting go any behavior which might, by intention or misguided effort, be destructive to this Body, any person in it, or to myself or to the Diocese of Lexington.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in letting go the need to be right.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in turning away from any struggle for power over others and power in this church.  
Heal me, Lord.
- I ask your help in accepting your solution for this parish, instead of mine.  
Heal me, Lord.
- Should I stray from the path of reconciliation and peace, I ask your help in choosing that path, again and again.  
Help me, Lord.
- I ask your forgiveness for any part I have played in perpetuating division, through careless acts, words or deeds.

Forgive me, Lord.

- I thank you for those priests and deacons who have served faithfully in this parish – as Emmanuel Church moves forward into God’s future.

Thank you, Lord.

*Presider:* O Lord, our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, O God, Eternal, Incarnate and Abiding, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Presider:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Presider and People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.***

*The Bishop stands and says:*

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## **The INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF HEALING**

*Presider:* Saviour of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us.

*People: **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.***

*Your presence here tonight indicates that you would like to ask for God’s healing in this sacrament for yourself, or to join in prayer for healing for this parish and its people. Please come forward, and either make your prayer request or remain silent. The bishop will then anoint you with oil, making the sign of the cross on your forehead. The presider and any others gathered around you will then lay their hands upon you as prayer is offered on your behalf. You may return to your place or remain to be a part of the laying on of hands for others.*

## **AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE LAYING ON OF HANDS, THE PRESIDER OFFERS A PRAYER.**

*Presider:* *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

*People: **And also with you. THE PEACE IS EXCHANGED.***

## **OFFERTORY SENTENCES:**

*Presider:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*People:* **(Members of the congregation will come forward carrying their individual sheets, representing hurts and disappointments, and table leaders carrying sheets of newsprint, representing the work of reconciliation) We offer the work of our hands, hearts and spirits, given to the glory of God.**

*All:* Amen.

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3**

*Celebrant::* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Life up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The celebrant proceeds:*

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Presider and people:* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest..**

*The Presider continues:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink this, all of you; This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”  
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*Presider and People:*

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

*The Presider continues:*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption. O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection and ascension , we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

***The Lord's Prayer***

***The Breaking of the Bread***

**THE COMMUNION**

*After the Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Presider and People:*

*For the health and growth of this congregation:*

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*For the election of a Rector if appropriate:*

Almighty God, giver of every good gift; Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish that we may receive a faithful

pastor who will care for your people and equip is for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
You have graciously accepted us as living members  
Of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
And you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
And grant us strength and courage  
To love and serve you  
With gladness and singleness of heart;  
Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Bishop or Presider blesses the people.*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God!*