

Scripture Passages and Prayers for Ministers of the Eucharist

John 6: 54 – 58

Jesus says:

‘Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,
and I shall raise them up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food
and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood
lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father,
myself draw life from the Father,
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven;
not like the bread our ancestors ate:
they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live forever.’

John 15:5

Jesus says:

‘I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.’

John 14:27

Jesus says:

‘Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.’

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

This is what I received from the Lord and in turn passed on to you; that on the same night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, “this is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me..” In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, “this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.



*Take and eat. Take and drink. This is for you, just as you are at this moment in your life.
Whether our hearts and minds are filled with joy, sorrow, gratitude, doubt, worry or praise, Christ embraces
us and gives us a place at the table.*

A Prayer of Dedication

Jesus, bless these hands you have chosen as your tools.
Jesus, always keep us aware and in awe of our sacred mission.
Jesus, make us worthy of this great ministry we have humbly accepted.
Jesus, send us out into the world to distribute your love.

Blessed and Broken

In the Eucharist bread is taken, blessed, broken and given.
In life we are taken, blessed, broken and given.
The priest takes the bread in his hands
and blesses it during the Eucharistic prayer;
then he breaks it and gives it to us as the body of Christ.
Through our birth and baptism we are taken into God's hands;
as the bread is taken, so too are we.
In life we are blessed by family, friends, love and joy;
as the bread is blessed, so too are we.
We are broken by failure, sin, pain and heartbreak;
as the bread is broken, so too are we.
In death we are given back to the mystery from which we came;
as the bread is given, so too are we.
When we take, bless, break and give bread to one another,
we believe the Lord to be especially present in our midst.
But we must learn to accept that in his memory
we will be taken, blessed, broken and given
for the life of the world.

Prayer of St. Augustine

The bread is Christ's body,
the cup is Christ's blood.
If you, therefore, are Christ's body and members,
it is your own mystery that is placed
on the Lord's table!
It is your own mystery that you are receiving!
Be a member of Christ's body, then, so that your Amen may ring true!
Be what you see; receive what you are.

Come Follow Me

Lord, you asked for my hands
That you might use them for your purposes.
I gave them for a moment; then withdrew them for the work was hard.
You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice.
I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused.
You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty.
I closed them for I did not want to see.
You asked me for my life that you might work through me.
I gave you a small part that I might not get "too involved"
Lord, forgive me for calculated efforts to serve you
Only when it is convenient for me to do so,
Only in those places where it is safe to do so, and
Only with those who make it easy to do so.
Father, forgive me, renew me,
Send me out as a usable instrument,
That I make take seriously the meaning of your Cross
And of your call to "Come follow me."