

Lord's Supperⁱ

May 4, 2003

Brothers and sisters,
if you will to love God before, in, and above all things,
in the power of God's holy and living Word,
then let each say: I will.

If you will to love your neighbors
and to serve your neighbors with deeds of love
then let each say: I will.

If you will to practice mutual admonition toward your brothers and sisters,
to reconcile yourselves with those whom you have offended,
to abandon all envy, hate, and evil will toward everyone,
and to also love your enemies, and do good to them,
then let each say: I will.

If you desire publicly to confirm before the church this pledge of love,
by eating bread and drinking wine,
the living memorial of the suffering and death of Jesus our Lord,
then let each say: I desire it in the power of God.

Silent Reflection

Let us eat and drink with one another in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
May God give to all of us the strength to carry out our pledge.
Amen.

Prayer: We praise and thank you, Lord God, Creator of the heavens and the earth, for your goodness towards us. Especially

you have loved us so much that you sent your beloved son to us, so that all who believe in him may not be lost, but have eternal life. Based on his example we walk the way of love and peace, and we also pray. Our Father...

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

[Invite forward for receiving bread and dipping bread in cup. We will sing together 877 in blue folder, "Make us one in your love."]

Brothers and sisters, by eating the bread and drinking the cup in memory of the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have had fellowship with one another, and have all become one loaf and one body. Since Christ is our Head, we should become conformed to our Head and as his members follow after him—love one another, do good, give and receive counsel, serve our neighbors, and even love our enemies.

Arise now and go forth in the peace of Christ Jesus. The grace of God be with us all. Amen.

ⁱ Adapted from *Balthasar Hubmaier*, ed. Yoder/Pipkin, pp. 403-6, at places using John Rempel's adaptation in *Minister's Manual*, pp. 88-89.