

In the Breaking of the Bread

A simple act, true to the traditions of the earliest years of the Christian faith, in which anyone in their own domestic setting may know and share communion with Christ.

This may be used at meal times or any other time, by two or three gathered together or, when necessary in a time of isolation, by an individual alone.

A piece of bread, large enough to be broken apart, is required.

Opening Words

May Jesus be made known to us this day in the Breaking of the Bread.

Reading (any of the following may be used):

Acts 2 .41, 42

Those who welcomed the message about Jesus were baptised, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Acts 2 .46, 47 (especially suitable at meal time)

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Luke 24 .28 - 31 (especially suitable in the evening)

As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised him; and he vanished from their sight.

Giving thanks

Lord Jesus, on the night in which you were betrayed, you took bread and gave thanks. We now take this bread in remembrance of you and give you thanks that, through faith, you dwell in our hearts and in our lives.

Breaking of the Bread *As it is broken these words are said:*

Jesus is made known in the breaking of this bread

The bread is then eaten, after which there may be silence and then the following may be said.

In the breaking of bread we share your Risen life. Thanks be to God. Amen