

# Rite for the Distribution of Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

When the first group to receive Holy Communion has assembled in the church, the minister says the following antiphon or another antiphon from no. 92 of *Pastoral Care of the Sick and Dying* [PC]. This may be repeated periodically (for example, hourly) or simply chanted or recited prior to the first group's reception of Holy Communion.

The altar candles may be lit.

How gracious you are, Lord:  
your gift of bread from heaven  
reveals a Father's love and brings us perfect joy.  
You fill the hungry with good things  
and send the rich away empty.

## LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Greeting, Lord's Prayer, and *Behold the Lamb of God*, should be said with each small group of Communicants.

Prior to the greeting all make the sign of the cross.

### GREETING

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And with your spirit.

### LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
and so we have the courage to say:

Our Father...

### COMMUNION

The minister shows the Eucharistic Bread to those present, saying:

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *Pastoral Care of the Sick and Dying*: Chapter 3, Communion in a Hospital or Institution. If circumstances allow, the pastor may celebrate the fuller "Rite of Distribution of Holy Communion Outside Mass" (see *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass*, chapter 1). This is a collaboration of the five dioceses of Wisconsin.

**Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

And together with the people he says:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion is distributed to the people in the usual way. Communicants should exit the church after receiving Holy Communion.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

The concluding prayer may be prayed after the last group has received Holy Communion but before they exit the building, or it may be said periodically during the day, especially if the Sacrament will be reposed for a brief time. Additional prayers may be found at PC 96.

**Let us pray.**

Pause for silent prayer.

**All-powerful and ever-living God,  
may the Body and Blood of Christ your Son  
be for our brothers and sisters  
a lasting remedy for the body and soul.**

**Through Christ our Lord.**

There is no blessing or dismissal.