



“I will build my church.”  
JESUS

HOUSE CHURCH  
SUNDAY LITURGY  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

## Sunday Order

1. Arrive and gather as House Church in host home
2. Open in prayer
3. At 10am, log on to YouTube for worship (Comment to let us know you're there!)
4. Watch service (Sing, Listen to the Word, and Engage)
5. Celebrate Communion (See below)
  - a. Pre-Communion Prayer
  - b. Communion Liturgy
  - c. Take the elements as community
6. Reflection Questions as House Church (Attached)
7. Close in Prayer
8. Pastor Adam's Sermon References

*Note: Please silence phones in order to be fully present with one another.*

## Pre-Communion Prayer

*Select one person to read Revelation 5:9-10 and Revelation 7:9-12.*

“And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” *(Revelation 5:9-10)*

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” *(Revelation 7:9-12)*

*Spend a few moments reflecting on these passages. Picture in your mind what this might look like. As you do so, pay attention to what you feel. Say them outloud to your House Church if you find that helpful.*

*Leader: move the group into a time of prayer (see next page).*

## A Prayer for Unity In the Universal Church

*Read aloud as a community or leader, before moving on to 1 Cor. 11.*

Lord Jesus,

Just as the Church is the one body of Christ, we pray for you to unify us as one family.

As the one Holy Spirit gives life to us, may our strength and power derive from our unity rather than individual gifts.

As the one baptism marks us as your people, may we die to our own needs and differences in order to lift up the needy among us.

As you are the diverse Trinitarian God, yet unified perfectly as Father, Son, and Spirit--empower us to be a unified people made up of different races, ethnicities, perspectives, and economic statuses.

Where there is division, Lord have mercy; unify us.

Where there is explicit or implicit bias, Lord have mercy; unify us.

Where our hope lies in a political candidate, Lord have mercy; unify us around the one hope that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And as we come to The Table to receive the Bread & Cup, remind us of the power that this unifying ordinance has as it reflects the broken body and shed blood of our Savior.

In Jesus's name we pray,

Amen.

## Communion Liturgy

*The leader will give out the Communion elements and begin the Communion liturgy by reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.*

*“For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’”*

*Everyone eats the bread together.*

*“In the same way also he took the cup, 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.”*

*Everyone, together, drinks the cup.*

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What was the most important thing the LORD spoke to your heart today? What was the most challenging thing you heard today? What brought you into a worshipful posture?
2. Pastor Adam started by taking us to a heavenly vision of multi-ethnic worship in the eternal kingdom of God. Why is it important for Christians to embrace this vision? How does this vision change the way you view yourself and our community, in light of God’s overall plan for renewal?

3. Today, we were encouraged to live with a divine dissatisfaction as we live in the painful space between heaven's vision of ethnic unity and the racial tension and division that characterizes our nation and even our churches. Spend time talking about this. How does this tension impact your heart? Have you felt this dissatisfaction?
4. Reflect together on the four headings: Imago Dei, the confusion of language at Babel, Pentecost, and the New Testament churches. What struck you most from this survey of the bible? How does it help us understand the condition of our world?
5. The New Testament writers believed in the power of the Gospel to help diverse communities worship together in unity. Take time to pray for our church and our community and nation. Let's ask God for His wisdom and grace as we enter into this critical conversation over the next few Sundays.

## Concluding Prayer

As we end our time together as House Churches, let us conclude with one final prayer, sealing up these things in our hearts and lives:

### A Prayer For the Human Family

From The Book of Common Prayer

*After this prayer, be dismissed and have a great Sunday!*

O God,  
you made us in your own image and redeemed us  
through Jesus your Son:  
Look with compassion on the whole  
human family;  
take away the arrogance and hatred which  
infect our hearts;  
break down the walls that separate us;  
unite us in bonds of love;  
and work through our struggle and  
confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth;  
that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in  
harmony around your heavenly throne;  
through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.

## Pastor Adam's Sermon References

*The Beautiful Community: Unity, Diversity, and the Church at Its Best* by Irwyn L. Ince Jr. (book)

"The Bible and Race" by Timothy Keller (article)