

Metaphors for the Church - The Body of Christ

CALL TO WORSHIP

An invitation from God to all humanity to behold and join the story, work, and eternal worship of Jesus.

Colossians 2:9-10

“For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
and you have been filled in him,
who is the head of all rule and authority.”



CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

A call to acknowledge and forsake sin against God and one another, and an invitation to receive the assurance of a new identity in the finished work of Christ.

CONFESSION

LEADER

Jesus, you are the head of the church, which is your body, and having been baptized into you, we are now members of your body.

TOGETHER

But we confess that we have not eagerly maintained our unity and bond of peace, that was bought by your blood and freely given. In our pride we create divisions by wrongly elevating some above others and harmfully amputating those we view as less valuable. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

LEADER

Jesus, you left the glories of heaven to be with us. You put on flesh, and with your healing touch reached into our brokenness and longing. You taught us how to live and die as you drank the cup of suffering for us. You brought us your presence and freely gave us both your life and death.

TOGETHER

But we confess we have simply become like the world, desiring luxury and indulgence, and loving what it loves. We have turned inward and withheld our presence from the world. Out of fear, we have built walls between us and the needs of others, neglecting to offer the grace and presence of the true life you offer. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.



ASSURANCE

LEADER

In Christ, your trespasses were nailed to the cross—
you are forgiven, and all your debts canceled.

Jesus has triumphed over all rulers, authorities, and spiritual darkness.

You are now dead to sin, and raised alive together with Christ.

You are the children of God, beloved of the Father—
with a future and a hope.

You are His ambassadors carrying His message of
reconciliation to the world.

TOGETHER

We are the body of Christ.

His presence in the world.

Thanks be to God!



BENEDICTION

A blessing from the authority of scripture spoken over the people of God.

Colossians 2:2-3

“May your hearts be encouraged,
being knit together in love,
to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the
knowledge of God’s mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all
the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

