*Slide 1 – World communion welcome slide as people arrive*

**Welcome - *Slide 2***

Today is world communion Sunday. On this first Sunday of October, we celebrate with churches all around the world our family of faith in all its rich diversity.

On this day, we remember that we are part of the whole body of believers. Whether we share communion in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, or in a storefront, we celebrate our oneness – our communion – in Christ, in the midst of a world still in need of the reconciling unity of Christ.

**Opening Prayer/call to worship - Tim**

**Fun World Quiz – get into groups**

*(paper and pens available)*

1.What is the national flower of China?

a. Lily b.Red rose c.Narcissus d.Tulip.

2. Where is Peppa pig from?

3. In what country would I eat chilaquiles for breakfast?

4. When was the Golden gate bridge in San Fran built?

a. Jan 1944 b. Jan 1933 c. Jan 1922 d. 1919

5. What is the capital city of the Phillipines?

6. In what sea is the island of Jamaica?

7. Where would I find the active volcano Vesuvius?

1. In what country do I find the lesser short-tailed bat?
2. America b. South Africa c. India d. New Zealand
3. The Zambezi river in Africa’s most noted feature is a waterfall called what? (Hint: name of a British queen)
4. The flag of Iran has what colours in it?

**Answers**

1. C
2. UK
3. Mexico. It is a lightly fried corn tortilla cut into 1/4s and topped with salsa.
4. B
5. Manila
6. Carribbean
7. Italy
8. D
9. The Victoria falls

10.Red, white, green.

**Offering** – *Slide 3*

We are privileged to support life-giving projects around the world – San Fran, China, the Philippines and many other places.

We encourage everyone to give a special gift if you can today to Baptist world Aid’s Sulawesi tsunami appeal.

You can give online or call them.

They have a target of $200,000 to send urgently needed emergency food, clean drinking water, and shelter to tsunami survivors.

**Announcements** – This week we have Streets of the East Wednesday and we begin a new Sunday series next week following the lectionary followed by a picnic lunch at Ringwood lake.

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**Love Clip**

We gather together today, with our brothers and sisters around the world because we love Jesus and the way Jesus taught us to love. Let us watch a video about the word “love” in in the Old Testament.

Play clip - *Slide 4*

<https://thebibleproject.com/videos/ahavah-love/>

**Communion** *– Slide 5* – Emma

*Table set with breads from all around the world.*

Jesus, we ask your blessing on the meal we are about to share. May these gifts of bread and wine strengthen us to be the gathered and scattered Body of Christ on earth, many in creative possibilities and one in spirit, one in truth, one in faith, one in love.

The table of bread is now ready: With banana bread in honor of the people of Africa, with pita bread in honor of the people of the middle east, damper for Australia, naan for the vast continent of Asia, the gluten-free bread loaf in honor of other Western Continents of Europe and America.

I invite you to come and take a piece of bread and some juice and return to your seat where we will eat and drink together.

The music we will play is gospel music from the town I grew up in Ndola, Zambia. This is how they sang and danced in church. Women and men always had different parts. The money made from this album went towards an orphanage and hospital in the town.

While people collect food and drink - Slide 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJJiEp0COlU>

We take the bread, a staple of the world and the symbol of Christ’s life on earth, given for everyone. We remember that just as yeast makes the bread rise, so God’s kingdom is growing in this world. Stories that may not make the news, but stories of life that are changing the world day by day.

Let us eat, feasting with Christians throughout time to the abundant life Jesus offers us.

We take the cup, a symbol of God’s love poured out for this world. Let us drink, taking in with the world around us, the love Jesus first offers us.

**Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving** *(together)* – Slide 7

We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of your table and the present love of Jesus Christ. We thank you for your gift of growth in this life-renewing feast. We thank you for the company of your great cloud of witnesses, here in this place, in all the world today and throughout your creation’s history.

Take your gathered people and scatter us again into the world… renewed, invigorated, and committed, that so nourished we may take root and bear life-giving fruit to feed, heal, clothe and comfort, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Prayer for the World Activity – Emma – Slide 8**

**We now have the opportunity to pray for the church around the world.**

# **To be in unity with them and follow the advice in Ephesians 6:18**

***18****Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+6%3A18&version=NLT#fen-NLT-29316a)*]*

**In your quiz groups, you will pray a prayer or two for a way that the church around the world. In each envelope is a different prayer need. You can come and collect one for each group.**

**Benediction:**

**And the Table Will Be Wide**

***A Blessing for World Communion Sunday***

*Jan L Richardson.*

And the table

will be wide.

And the welcome

will be wide.

And the arms

will open wide

to gather us in.

And our hearts

will open wide

to receive.

And we will come

as children who trust

there is enough.

And we will come

unhindered and free.

And our aching

will be met

with bread.

And our sorrow

will be met

with wine.

And we will open our hands

to the feast

without shame.

And we will turn

toward each other

without fear.

And we will give up

our appetite

for despair.

And we will taste

and know

of delight.

And we will become bread

for a hungering world.

And we will become drink

for those who thirst.

And the blessed

will become the blessing.

And everywhere

will be the feast.