

With the bread that we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another forgive us  
and help us to forgive.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love  
now and forever, amen.

Alternate Lord's Prayer by Jim Cotter

*Dessert is served*

*We clear up together*

### *Closing Words*

It is night.  
The night is for rest.  
**Let us rest in the presence of God**

*silence*

It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done.  
What has not been done has not been done.  
**Please help us, God, to let it be**

The night is dark  
**Let our fears of the darkness of the world  
and of our lives be illuminated by you.**

The night is quiet  
**Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,  
all dear to us, and all who have no peace**

The night heralds the dawn  
**Let us look hopefully to a new day:  
new joys, new possibilities  
and your encircling presence with us along the way. Amen**

Adapted from Brunswick Uniting's Table Church liturgy

# A Gathering

## Richmond Uniting Church Community



Words in black can be said by anyone  
Words in green – action/information  
Words in red are said together

### The Welcome

*(usually begun by the youngest present)*

**Come, everything is ready!**  
**God welcomes us and so we welcome one another:**

**(name) we welcome you here**  
**Reply: Amen, it is good to be here.**

*The candle is lit and bread and wine are brought to the table*

**While they were at the table Jesus took bread and after giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying 'Take; this is my body'. Then Jesus took a cup of wine, and gave it to them 'This is my blood, which is poured out for many'.**

Thank you God that in Jesus we encounter your Divine life among us. Thank you that that which is broken may be made whole and that which is given is not wasted.

*Bread is passed around*  
For all that is wholesome and sustaining  
We give thanks

*We eat the bread*

*Wine/juice is passed around*  
For all that is celebratory and joyful  
We give thanks

*We drink together*

For life, for food, for friends to share it with  
We give thanks. Amen

The first course is served

*Sharing the highlights of the week  
and/or discussion*

Response

Tender God for all that has been life-giving and loving,  
We give you thanks

For times and places where love has been withheld  
We seek your healing

For all that is difficult  
We seek your strength

Thank you, Holy One-Sacred Three, for this meal

But we cannot live by bread alone.  
We have shared it together because we need each other  
gathered around this table. And we need you.

Prayers for the earth

Holy One - Sacred Three, we give thanks that you call us to join in the unfolding love of your Kingdom. You welcome all people. So now we bring to you people, and situations, that need love, light and peace.

*Candles may be lit as we name individuals or situations*

God of all places and this place:  
You promised a new earth where the hungry will feast  
and the oppressed go free.  
Come Holy One-Sacred Three, build that place among us

God of all time and this time:  
You promised a new day when the fearful will laugh  
and the sick find healing.  
Come Holy One-Sacred Three, speed that time among us

God of all people, our God:  
Take what we have and what we hope for,  
to make this a world where all people find good news.  
We come, Holy One-Sacred Three, to share in the work of your  
Kingdom until the new earth is birthed among us. Amen.

As Jesus inspired us, let us pray together

Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love Maker  
Source of all that is and that shall be.  
Father and mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo  
through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed  
by all peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done  
by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.