

A FRANCISCAN AGAPE FEAST:

Adapted

CALL TO THE FEAST

Youngest: Out of darkness came light **All:** and the power of God was revealed:

Men: in the running wave and the flowing air,

Women: in the quiet earth and the shining stars.

Eldest: Out of the dust came life, **All:** and the image of God was revealed

Men: in the human face and the gentle heart,

Women: in the warmth of flesh and the depth of soul

Youngest: out of justice came freedom. **All:** The Wisdom which is God was revealed:

Men: in the need to grow and the will to love,

Women: in the chance to know and the power to choose.

Eldest: Then God looked at the creation, **All:** Behold, it was very good.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Eldest: Living God, Loving Creator; you cherish Creation and: **All: We thank you.**

Youngest: With earth, air, water, fire: in our element as your children: **All: We praise you.**

Eldest: With our lips, lives and diversity, each made in your image: **All: We honor you.**

Youngest: Jesus, you came to share our human lives, our sorrow and joy: **All: We are humbled in you.**

Eldest: The Spirit at work today: encouraging, enabling, surprising us: **All: You warm us.**

Youngest: Poor as we are: **All: You give us hope.**

Eldest: Salt of the earth, you give us meaning and purpose and **All: We praise you.**

All: Amen!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Youngest: Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, **All:** how can we season it?

Eldest: Giving God, you blessed us with saltiness, **All:** But we became bland.

Youngest: You trusted us with your Word, **All:** But we did not keep it.

Eldest: You lit a flame in our midst, **All:** But we hid it under formality, and smothered it with our fears.

Youngest: God, in your mercy: **All:** Forgive us.

(pause) *(silence)*

Eldest: Forgiving God, we believe that you have called us. **All:** to be salt and light;

Youngest: that you offer us time and space and strength **All:** to begin again.

(pause) *(silence)*

Eldest: Giving and forgiving God, **All:** We thank you.

Youngest: Have salt in yourself, and **All:** be at peace with each other.

>>Continue >>

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SHARING THE FEAST

Youngest: We are all invited to the common table to share in this Agape Feast.

Elders: At this table we come as brothers and sisters in the Holy Family of God.

Youngest: Taste and see that God is good.

The feast can be a loaf of bread (rice-cakes, chapati, naan, pita, tortilla, oatcakes, sweet bread, baguette, etc.) and a glass/cup (or individual glasses) of (wine, water, cider, grape juice). The bread and the wine are passed to one another. Each person serving the individual next to him or her.

PRAYER

(at the conclusion of each one drinking and eating)

Elders: As we share this bread, as we pour out this water, we thank you, God, for our daily bread for the food which delights and nourishes us and for the companionship that sustains us as *[a family, friends, coworkers, Franciscans, etc.]*.

Youngest: We thank you, too, for *(wine, water, juice, or...)* to quench our thirst and for the Living Water with which you surprise, enrich and transform our lives.

All: We give thanks for this feast at which we all can share, a foretaste of the Holy Realm.

All: Amen.

Excerpts taken from:

<https://www.ofsusaecumenicalinterfaith.org/agape-celebration>