

Holy Communion Liturgy

Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

We have come from East and West, and from North and South, and now sit at the table in the Presence of God.

This is a table at which all are welcome, who believes in Jesus Christ our Judge and Hope!

According to Luke, when the risen Jesus was at the table with his disciples, he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.

Jesus invites all to share this meal in memory of him. At this table our eyes may open, too, and we may be changed by the grace of God shown in Jesus, our Savior.

Great Thanksgiving:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, Our God

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us.

When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people.

You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.

Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give you thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your child Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you.

He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the Good News of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. And said,

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and after giving thanks, gave it to them, and said,

“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Gracious God, by the death of your child you have destroyed the power of death, and by raising him to life you have given us life for evermore.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Leader: Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, O God, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body, one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen

Breaking of the Bread / Lifting Up of the Cup:

Invitation: No matter who you are, no matter where you are or came from this morning, no matter what you bring with you...

If you believe in Jesus the Christ and accept the forgiveness of your sins in his name, you are welcome at this table. Come, for all things are now ready.

Prayer after Communion (in unison):

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of the Body of Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in this Sacrament, remembering his life, death, and resurrection.

Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and to love our neighbors as ourselves. This - and many more - we pray in Jesus' name. Amen