



Strathmore United Church

October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday, Creation Time 4

Holy Communion

Rev. Maria Szabone Berces

Greetings & Welcome:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

and also, with you.

Based on 2 Cor. 13:13

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

What is the Body of Christ?

We are the Body of Christ.

What does the Body consist of?

People worldwide who keep faith in the Good News of Christ Jesus.

Why are we here today?

We gather to worship and give thanks to the One who calls us here and lights our way.

Come, let us gather in the light of Christ to worship as the Body of Christ!

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Call to Worship:

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🎵 Centering: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker (vs 1-2:4) *MV#30

Opening Prayer:

Our presence here this morning is an act of commitment to the communion of faith.

Thank you, God, for your eternal love that draws us to You and to each other.

Our openness to your word, O Lord, is an act of faith.

Help us grow together in understanding and compassion, in mercy and love, as part of the worldwide community of Christ.

Our involvement in this time together is an act of worship.
Accept our praise today, the songs from our hearts and the psalms of our lives. Amen.

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Story Time for All Ages:

 **Hymn:** *God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty (vs 1-2:4) *VU #310*

Prayer of Confession:

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Words of Assurance:

We believe God's love and grace is infinite, meaning God forgives us.

We are forgiven people! Thanks be to God.

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 **Hymn:** *Spirit of Life* ***VU #381**

Prayer of Illumination:

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Reading of Scripture

Exodus 20:1–20

Philippians 3:4b–14

L: A Word of God that is still speaking,

P: **Thanks be to God.**

Message:

 **Hymn:** *Come Touch Our Hearts (Vs 1-2; 4-5) *MV #12*

Holy Communion Liturgy

In the name of the One who said, "I am the bread of life,"
I invite you to come and eat.

In the name of the One who said, "I am the true vine,"
I invite you to come and drink.

In the name of the One who said,
“Love one another, as I have loved, you,”
I invite you to the table of Jesus Christ.

The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks.

We offer joyful thanks to God.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love.
You guide the sun, cradle the moon, and toss the stars.
At your word the earth was made
and spun on its course among the planets.
You breathe life into us
and set us among all your creatures,
in a covenant of love and service.
Even when we turn away from you, you do not forsake us.
You send your prophets to proclaim your justice,
to remind us of your promise of peace,
and to call us back to you.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit,
we praise you for your love revealed to us in Jesus,
who walks with us, our Wisdom and our Way,
sharing our joy and sorrow,
healing the sick,
feeding the hungry,
and setting the captive free.
So it is that we join the song of all creation to
proclaim your goodness:

 Hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy *MV #203

O holy, holy holy God, O God of time and space

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace

Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise

And bless-ed is the one who comes and bears your name always

Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth

we recognize the fullness of your grace:

light, life, and love, revealed

in words that confront and comfort us,

in teachings that challenge and change us,

in compassion that heals and frees us.

And now we gather at this table for the family feast of all
Christians

to remember and to be filled with such longing for your realm,
that we may rise together

to turn our worship into witness

and to follow in your way.

We remember that when Jesus ate with his friends,

he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,

he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Each time you do this, remember me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
passed it to his friends, saying:

"Drink. This cup that is poured out for you
is the promise of God, made in my blood.

Whenever you drink it, remember me."

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,

remembering Christ's life and death,

proclaiming his resurrection,

waiting in hope for his coming again.

May we, in praise and thanksgiving,

so offer ourselves to you
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

 **Hymn:** *Holy, Holy, Holy* ***MV #204**

Sing Christ has died, and Christ is risen, Christ will come again
Sing Christ has died, and Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the body of Christ:

light, life, and love in the world.

In this hope and as your people, we praise you.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever,
we pray with the disciples of Jesus throughout the ages

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD / LIFTING UP OF THE CUP

Invitation: Everyone who believes in Jesus the Christs and
accepts the forgiveness of sins in his name, is welcome at this
table.

Prayer after Communion:

Eternal and gracious One,
though we live in a world of need,
here we have tasted your goodness
and hungered for a world more just.

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,
here we have heard your call
to be a people of healing community.

Though daily we touch our limits,
here we have received the fullness of your grace.

Send us forth, O God,
in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

The Offering Invitation:

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M&S Story:

Sometimes the greatest generosity comes from the people you
would least expect—like you.

♪♪ Sung Dedication: *For the Gift of Creation* * VU #538

For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

Prayer of Dedication:

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♪♪ Hymn: *Called by Earth and Sky* *MV #135

Commissioning:

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♪♪ Choral Response: *Amen* *VU #974

Passing the Peace of Christ

L: May the God of Peace go with you.

P: And also with you.

*Please, join us for coffee and fellowship after the
service.*

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MV #12 *Come Touch Our Hearts*: Words, Music: Gordon Light 2002. Arrangement: Andrew Donaldson 2002. Common Cup Company. Reprinted/Podcast with permission under ONE LICENSE #734505-A. All rights reserved.

MV #203 *Sanctus and Benedictus*: Words: William S. Kervin and Paul Stott. Music: Traditional Melody. Reprinted/Podcast with permission under ONE LICENSE #734505-A. All rights reserved.

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