

Communion

The Invitation

Celebrant: Will you open yourselves to the grace of Jesus Christ that is always and already available here at this table? If so, say, "Open us to your grace, Lord."

All: "Open us to your grace, Lord."

Will you open yourselves once again to the call of Jesus Christ? If so, say, "Open us to your call, Lord."

"Open us to your call, Lord."

Will you open yourselves to the possibility of transformation through Jesus Christ?

If so, say, "Transform us, O Lord."

"Transform us, O Lord."

As we prepare to attend the heavenly feast, we especially pray for those who have no earthly tables, or no place at a table, and so little daily bread.

We confess this day that we have been slow to join the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all. In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession...

Celebrant: Hear this good news!

God has loved you from the very beginning.

The invitation of Christ is never-ending.

The Holy Spirit is transforming you even now!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God! Amen!

The Great Thanksgiving

Jesus is with us!

With us now and forever!

So lift up your hearts and voices!

We lift them up to God!

Let's join in thanks and praise!

How right it is to do this together!

Holy Living One,

You transformed a whole lot of nothing into this amazing creation.

You breathed life all around and called it good.

You invited us to the wonder of it all

and when we could not face you, you turned us around.

You keep bringing us around and around, time and again, offering the chance to join the freedom-dance.

And so we join with the glorious chorus of saints past and present, singing a never-ending hymn of praise: SFGP 97

Holy, Holy, Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who come in the name of the Lord, blessed is the One who comes, comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Indeed, you are holy!

And blessed is your son Jesus,

Anointed One, Liberator,

Dance Partner, Sibling, Friend.

Jesus sat at tables with those who had no place and offered fulfilling food for bodies and souls.

And on the night when he would give all love for us,

he sat at the table with extended family—
just as he hosts this table here and now with this extended
family.

He offered the usual prayers of thanks to you, God,
over bread and cup, and then disrupted the gathering with
uncustomary words:

“Take and eat this bread—it is my body given for you.
Whenever you gather around the table together, remember
me.

“Take and drink from this cup, each and every one—
it is the sign of a new covenant.

This love is poured out for all people.
Whenever you gather around the table together, remember
me.”

And so, my friends, we remember. And we believe:
Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

Pour out your Spirit upon us now!
Pour out your transforming presence
on the gifts of this body
and the gifts of this bread and fruit of the vine.
May they be for us your life and love,
uniting us as one body—Christ’s body—
for the sake of loving the world.

All glory to you, Living Presence, Holy One, Holy God,
through Jesus our Christ
and the Holy Spirit our Advocate.
Amen.

Communion

You're invited to dine.

The table extends beyond this physical space
and into the space of the Spirit that unites us.

Let us partake:

The body of Christ –the bread of life:

The fruit of the vine—the sign of a new covenant.

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.