

OUR THANKSGIVING MEAL

CALL TO GIVE THANKS

Welcome friends and family from near and far! As we are able, some of us are meeting here in the house of the Creator at the great feasting table. And those of you afar know that you too are on Holy Ground with the One who walked with all our people, and who walks with us now and future generations.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, Source of our being, we thank and praise you with our words, our work, and with our lives.

For the goodness of creation and the glory of revitalization, we praise you.

For the commitment of your call to us, and the words of prophets, we praise you.

Therefore, with all that is, seen and unseen, and with all the faithful of every time and place, we join in this hymn of praise and thanksgiving:

Holy, holy, holy God,

power of life and love!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna through the ages!

Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!

Let us remember together that vision of God's hope for us shown in Jesus at table:

he shared food with followers and friends,
with saints and sinners, rich and poor,
and a few friends in an upper room.

On the night before he died,
he had supper with his companions.

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks,
he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
he passed it among them, saying:

"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.
Hallelujah!

Prayer of Self-Giving

Loving God, Redeemer of all our behaviors,
with thanks, we offer this food and drink,
signs which your creation produces,
and signs of your forgiveness.

With this bread and cup, we remember your Son,
Jesus the Christ, and share in the mystery that is God.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Affirmation of Memory and Hope

We remember Jesus' commitment and integrity.

We remember the Easter hope of resurrection.
We remember the promise of compassion and justice.
We remember the words that Jesus taught...

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Prayer for Transformation

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one.

Make us, though broken, whole.

Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Hallelujah and Amen.