

## Holy Communion

### Welcome

The Day of Celebration is here!

**Hallelujah!**

We gather at the table to share in the Banquet of Life!

### Thanksgiving

For Christ is Risen!

**He is Risen Indeed!**

And so we give thanks!

**We give thanks and praise to the One who brings life!**

Gracious God, we raise shouts of Hallelujah,

**we sing praises for the wonder of an empty tomb,**

giving thanks for the gifts of life that break the bonds of death.

**We sing songs of praise for the beauty of the earth, the  
glory of the skies, and the majesty of the waters.**

As the spring deepens and the earth thaws, as green breaks  
through the dead of winter,

**we sing songs of hope for new life springing forth and  
for the promise held in every seed.**

As people of faith, we remember all those who have gone  
before, named and unnamed, who have embraced Your life and  
Your hope.

**We trust that in remembering and retelling their  
stories, we too can move into life anew**

\* **Hymn:** "I Come with Joy"

VU #477

I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall

in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread,  
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends,  
and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here,  
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.

## Remembering

We gather at this table remembering a story told mere days ago...

**and yet also ages ago...**

that Jesus gathered with his closest friends in an Upper Room...

**and he called them to remember their promised freedom.**

We remember that at that table he took bread, gave thanks for it, blessed it, broke it and passed it among them saying:

**This is my body, broken for the world. Whenever you eat it remember me.**

Then he took the cup, blessed it and passed it among them saying:

**This is the cup of the New Covenant. Whenever you drink it remember me.**

And so, we break the bread, pour the cup, and remember with hope.

**On this Easter Day we share in God's Banquet to celebrate Life Victorious!**

## Transformation

### Breaking and Pouring

Here at this table we break the Bread of Life.

On this Day of Celebration we pour the Cup of Promise.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God**

Come, for all is now ready.

## **Prayer after Communion**

For what we have eaten,  
for what we have sipped,  
for what we have received—  
bread, wine, and life—

**thank you, God!**

May this moment fill us. May we be changed by it. And  
through us, may the world also be changed.

**Hallelujah and Amen.**