

Great Thanksgiving
(God Our Peace)

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Open up your hearts.

We open them up to our Lord.

It is right to celebrate the ways of peace.

For we are thankful for Your peace in our hearts.

The peace that is ours is not like the peace of the world.

It does not come through violence.

It does not come by force.

Your peace flows from our generosity.

Your peace is from the dance of kindness.

The peace we enjoy is Your gift to us.

It does not come from wealth.

It does not come from walls.

Your peace grows from our service to others.

Your peace expands with act of mercy.

Thank You for this gift of Your Spirit.

Thank You for leading us along the paths of peace.

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you, Source of all peace,
heaven and earth are filled with this glory.**

Blessed are all who walk in Your peaceful way.

We give you thanks with all our heart and soul.

Thank you, for sending us the Prince of Peace, Jesus.

Born to a poor family.

Threatened by political violence.

Forced to be a refugee.

The Prince of Peace was like us.

Jesus showed us how to turn the other cheek.

Jesus showed us how to walk the extra mile.

Jesus showed us how to return evil with good.

The Prince of Peace was like us.

To bring peace Jesus washed the feet

of the one who would betray him!

To bring peace Jesus washed the feet

of the one who would deny him,

not just once but three times!

To bring peace Jesus washed the feet

of those who would desert him!

The Prince of Peace wants us to be like him.

That night, to bring peace,

Jesus took the bread used to remember

our human struggle for justice,

with a prayer of blessing, broke it, saying:

“Take and eat for this is my body given for you.”

The Prince of Peace wants us to be like him.

After supper Jesus took the cup used to remember the harm caused by our sin, with a prayer of blessing, shared it, saying:

“Drink with me all of you for this is the cup of my blood poured out as a testimony to God’s eternal covenant of grace, promising peace with God too all who believe.”

The Prince of Peace wants us to be like him.

Christ does want us to be like him,

He chose not to fight because he taught,

“Those who live by the sword, die by the sword.”

He chose not to argue because he taught,

“Let your yes be yes, and your no be no.”

He chose not to curse, because he taught,

“Bless and do not curse.”

We want to live like the Prince of Peace that is why we proclaim:

Christ has died to bring peace.

Christ is risen to bring peace.

Christ will come again to bring peace.

Dove of Peace, Constant Hope

surround these gifts of bread and wine,

allow them to become for us the precious body and blood of Christ our peace.

Dove of Peace, Constant Hope

surround the gift of our lives, our intentions, our plans, our actions

allow them to become for the world Your Church,

the precious body and spotless bride of Christ, our peace.

Dove of Peace, Constant Hope
You have given us a peace that is beyond our understanding
make us instruments of this peace,
use our lives to infect the world with this peace,
may our words bring peace,
may our actions bring peace,
may our future in You bring peace.

**Allow this to become our reality,
through the grace we have received through Jesus Christ, through the fruit of the Holy
Spirit given to us to share,
through the Creative Imagination that created us for peace,
now and always. Amen.**

Let us now follow the Prince of Peace to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

(Prayer after Communion)

**Thank You for allowing us to share in this holy mystery of the Prince of Peace. You have
used this holy sacrament to bring peace to our troubled souls. Now let us go out into this
world to share this peace with others as we share with them the communion of the saints, so
that no one would be alone and unloved and that Christ might be glorified. Amen.**