

Holy Communion (Unity)

Holy Trinity, You invite us to join with You.
You invite us all to become one as You are one in all Your amazing diversity.
You form us into Your church, one body made up of a multitude of parts.
You reach out Your hand to us
and allow us to become Your partners in an intergalactic dance of life.
We are thrilled!
We are filled with over flowing joy!
We tremble at the overwhelming possibilities You place before us.
You are so spectacular, and deserving of all our praises.
We glorify You before all the world.
The crickets, the robins and the wolves join with us to sing of Your greatness.
The redwoods, the maples, and the aspen join with us to worship You.
The dolphins, peacocks, and mountain goats join with us to dance before You.
All of heaven is filled with your glory.
We join with all of Your creation to bow in humble amazement before You.

It is Jesus, the good shepherd who gathers us all together from every corner of the globe.
Conservatives follow Jesus, giving their lives to him.
Progressives declare that Jesus is their Lord, and listen attentively to his voice.
Literalists pattern their lives according to their interpretation of the holy scriptures.
Deconstructionists open their lives to follow the way and the truth
according to their understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
Jesus chooses to eat at this his table with unbelievers and sinners,
listening carefully to the cries of their hearts.
We are the sheep from many flocks, of the one who owns all the cattle on a thousand hills.
When we go astray, our Good Shepherd leaves everyone and seeks to bring us home.

As we wash our hands,
we remember how Jesus took up the towel and basin
uniting all who were there by the washing of their feet.
We too can unite others through our faithful service.

As we take the bread,
we remember how Jesus took the bread of Passover,
ritually set aside and blessed to remember those still awaiting their deliverance.
Jesus said: "Take, eat, this is my body broken and given to you."
We too can unite others through our faithful service.

As we take the wine,
we remember how Jesus poured the wine of Passover,
ritually set aside and blessed to remember damage done by our sins in the world.
Jesus said: "Take, drink, this cup is filled with my blood,

poured out as a living expression of God's eternal covenant of grace,
forgiving not only our sins but the sins of the whole world, uniting us all."
We too can unite others through our faithful service.

Unifying Force, Unbreakable bond
use these gifts of bread and wine,
which for us are the body and blood of Christ
to bring us together as one.

Unifying Force, Unbreakable bond
use the gift of our lives, our devoted service,
which for us is your church, the body and bride of Christ
to bring the world together as one.

Unifying Force, Unbreakable bond
heal the divisions between those gathered here.
Strengthen families and friendships,
Renew commitments and covenants,
Help us recommit to being united with all the world in You.

Our prayer is for unity in Christ our One Lord.
Our prayer is for unity in the One Spirit of our one calling.
Our prayer is for unity in the one Creator who makes us all one in our service to all the world,
so that our worship might honor the unity of our God as we become one just as they are one.
Amen.

Now let us pray together as Jesus instructed us:

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed by 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:

We thank You for sharing this sacramental gift with us, this holy mystery revealed in Jesus. In it we found for ourselves the bond of unity forged in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and by the forgiveness of every sin from the cross. Now send us out to share this good news, that all are loved, all are forgiven and all are one in Christ Jesus our Lord. May our unity draw more and more people to Christ today and everyday. Amen.