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Great Thanksgiving
(Joy)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Source of Joy,

You cause our hearts to sing,

You cause our souls to leap, and spin, and fly.

Every time we notice Your presence, we have to smile.

We are overwhelmed by all the ways You have benefitted us:

You have forgiven all of our iniquities,

You have healed all of our diseases,

You have redeemed our lives,

You are always a source of steadfast love and mercy,

You are always so good to us.

Every good and perfect gift we have ever received

has come from You,

and we deserve none of them.

Our joy cannot be contained, it is contagious, and it has filled the whole world with your praise, in fact our joy fills all of heaven as we join with the hosts of heaven, saints and martyrs, angels and archangels, all joined in ceaseless praise saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

As the source of our greatest joys, You brought joy to our world,
when You sent Immanuel, our Savior Jesus Christ.

The joy of Mary, who first held the babe in her arms.

The joy of Joseph, who found safety for the child in Egypt.

The joy of shepherds, who rejoiced with choirs of angels.

The joy of magi, who found their object of worship.

Jesus brought joy to children, that were eagerly blessed.

Jesus brought joy to lepers, freed from distress.

Jesus brought joy to the lame and the blind,

Jesus brought joy to the hungry

and many others in the fullness of time.

With joy,
Jesus chose to honor rather than expecting to be honored.
Kneeling before others and meeting their needs.
We are all invited to follow his lead.

With joy,
Jesus took the bread remembering the oppressed
Giving thanks for deliverance.
Please eat, "This is my body, given for you."
We are all invited to follow his lead.

With joy,
Jesus took the cup remembering the accused
Giving thanks for redemption.
Please drink, "This is the cup of my blood, poured out as a witness to the faithfulness of God's
eternal covenant of grace,
promising forgiveness to you and to all the world."
We are all invited to follow his lead.

We truly want to follow where Christ is leading us.
With over whelming joy we dedicate our lives
to entering fully into the divine mystery we now boldly declare:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Joyous Delight, Exuberant Glee
energize these gifts of bread and wine,
empower them to become for us the body and blood of Christ
joy to our world.

Joyous Delight, Exuberant Glee
energize the gift of our unworthy lives
empower us to become for the world, Your church,
the amazing body and the extraordinary bride of Christ
joy to our world.

Joyous Delight, Exuberant Glee
bring joy to those struggling during this season:
give comfort to those who are filled by sorrow,
give relief to those tormented by pain,
give hope to those who are struggling to believe in a future of joy.

Please for the sake of Christ
whose own blood intercedes for the needs of the world.
Please for the sake of the Holy Spirit

who interprets every prayer so it comes perfectly
before the throne of Grace.

Please for the sake of our Creator who looks at our world and delights in our joy, our hymns, our
praise, and spiritual songs, always.

Amen.

Now with joy in our hearts, let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

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)

We have been filled with joy as we have partaken of this Your holy mystery. Thank You for
touching our hearts and our souls and our minds with your divine presence, Immanuel. Now be
near to us as we go out into the world to be witness to Your saving grace through how we speak,
how we act and how we love those who live around us. May they see Jesus and be filled with
joy. Amen.