

Great Thanksgiving
(Light from Light)

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.

Your light sparkles around us.

Your light dances before us filling our lives with hope and joy.

You are the light that illuminates our ignorance and opens the door to fresh creativity.

You are the light that attracts us to come near to our salvation.

You are the light that directs our lives and dissipates our irrational fears.

You are the light that reveals the truth in our hearts and frees us from our false idols.

In Your light we are free to praise you.

In Your light we are free to form a choir of your people of many cultures, many languages, many ethnicities and political parties to sing your praises.

In Your light We join with the vast crowd of witnesses who are bathed in your light of glory as they join around your throne to proclaim:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest.

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

Hosanna in the Highest.

You sent Jesus who is

“God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.”

Jesus is the light of world.

The life of Christ is the light for all people.

This light shines in darkness,

and the darkness cannot not extinguish it.

Jesus is the true light that shines on all people,

Through Christ Your light is in the world but it is not recognized.

Even among us, Your own people we do not recognize its presence.

Your light in Christ is contagious.

Christ proclaims that we are the Light of the world and that Your light not to be hidden.

Just as Christ shines with the light of Your fellowship,
now we do too, and we shine with all Your brilliance and glory.

This light shines when we serve the needs of others.

When we follow Christ by removing our pretensions
and kneel down before the concerns of others,

and shine forth Your great love.
For like in Christ you want to shine your light among us
not just over us.

Your glory shone with brightness
when Jesus took the bread of the hearth with thanksgiving.
Breaking the bread, Christ shared it, saying,
“Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.”
Notice what the light reveals to your soul.

Your glory shone with brightness
when Jesus took the cup filled with the fruit of the vine with thanksgiving.
Sharing this cup with all, Christ said,
“Join with me, all of you, for this is the cup of my blood, poured out believing
in God’s eternal covenant of forgiveness, that is for you and for all.”
Notice what the light reveals to your soul.

Your light in Jesus Christ revealed much
through Your word, Your acts of mercy and grace,
and the way Christ died, not with curses, wrath and hatred,
but with love, mercy and compassion.
This is why we seek to kindle this divine spark held in this holy mystery
as we proclaim it together in faith:

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

Healing Warmth, Brilliant Light
shine upon these gifts of bread and wine,
reveal through them the presence of the body and blood of Christ
our light and our salvation.

Healing Warmth, Brilliant Light,
shine upon the gift of our lives, our hopes and our dreams
reveal through them Your presence, the church,
the active body and compassionate bride of Christ
our light and our salvation.

Healing Warmth, Brilliant Light
shine upon the world around us that we might see
the needs of others.
That we might better be your hands and feet,
your voice and your grace.
Take away our excuses of ignorance and
lead us in the way of your righteousness.

We follow the Light of Christ in our world.

We become the Light as the flame of Your Holy Spirit dances upon our heads.
We worship in the glory of You the one true light and blessing of the world.
Praise and honor, glory and power be yours now and forever.

Amen.

Now in the illumination of the Light of the world, let us pray with Christ: