

Great Thanksgiving  
*(Others Have It Right)*

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.**

You who are always right,  
thank You for loving us, even when we get it all wrong.  
Although You patiently teach us day by day,  
thank You for not holding it against us when we keep getting it all wrong.  
You must shake Your head and laugh when the others get it right,  
and we, Your people keep getting it so wrong.  
Thank You for still loving us.  
Thank You for still finding ways to use us.  
Thank You for all the seventy times seven chances You give us to get it right.

You are worthy of our praise.  
That is why we not only sing Your praises, but seek to evangelize the world to fill out the chorus.  
We are thrilled to add our voice with those who continuously sing Your praises day and night  
around Your throne, proclaiming to the universe:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**  
**Heaven and earth all full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, as is Jesus Christ whom You sent to share Your love among us.  
He came into our lives and we get it all wrong.  
We look in palaces, instead of stables.  
We look for his credentials, instead of at the many acts of love.  
We look for a warrior, a political power house so we could get our own way,  
and we become disillusioned with turning the other cheek, and the Father forgive them.  
Even though Jesus told us over and over again that his death is not the end,  
we have to struggle to see him in the face of the gardener, and the stranger on the road,  
we want proof, we want to feel the nail prints and put our hand in his side.  
We even now await his return, when Jesus is always with us even until the end of the age.

We fight about who is the greatest,  
because we believe our side is in the right.  
But we get it wrong,

Jesus kneels before us all.  
Jesus cleanses all of us.  
And tries to teach us one more time how to love each other.

We fight about who is the greatest,  
because we believe our side is in the right.  
But we get it wrong,  
Jesus take with thanksgiving the bread of Passover,  
set aside to remind us that refugees are still running for their lives.  
Jesus breaks the bread for all of us and says,  
“Take and eat, this is my body given for you.”  
Jesus wants us to remember how to love each other.

We fight about who is the greatest,  
because we believe our side is in the right.  
But we get it wrong,  
Jesus takes with thanksgiving the cup of Passover wine,  
set aside to remind us of the destructiveness of our sins.  
Jesus took the cup and share it with all of us and says,  
“Drink with me, each of you, this cup of my blood,  
poured out to glorify God’s eternal covenant of grace,  
promising forgiveness to you and all who will believe.”  
Jesus wants us to remember how to love each other.

Others often understand what You are doing better than we do.  
We get it all so wrong, so often, that it is embarrassing.  
This is why we turn to the one example that we know is true,  
and choose to proclaim boldly this holy mystery:

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

Wisdom Befuddler, Teacher of Humility,  
uses these gifts of bread and wine  
and reveal to our hearts a blessing beyond our full comprehension,  
the body and blood of Christ.

Wisdom Befuddler, Teacher of Humility  
use the gift of our wrong answers, wrong ideas, and disastrous plans,  
and use them to reveal to the world a blessing beyond their full comprehension,  
your church, the body and bride of Christ.  
Wisdom Befuddler, Teacher of Humility  
slow us down,  
help us listen to the voice of the outsider,  
open our eyes to the chance we are wrong, once again.  
Open our hearts to expand our compassion for the fallibility of our community,  
your beloved family.

We ask this with Christ, through Christ, in Christ  
following the leading of the Holy Spirit,  
to the praise of the One who is Love, who creates love and spreads love throughout the earth,  
now and always.

**Amen.**

Now as the imperfect followers of the perfect, let us pray 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)*

Thank You for sharing again a taste of this Holy Mystery in Jesus Christ. No matter how many times we get it wrong, the grace we have found in Jesus brings healing to us and those we have harmed. As we go out, make us more gracious to those who are not like us: don't look like us, don't believe like us, don't understand You in the same way we believe we do. Help us to remember that they may be right and Your grace seen in us may draw us all closer to You. May we be a blessing in Christ just as he will always be a blessing to us. Amen.