

Great Thanksgiving
(Pushed Out)

One who never pushes us out;
One who never lets us slip away;
One who always seeks and saves the lost,
we come together to worship You.
When others see a lost cause,
You claim us as Your only cause.
When others are only looking where we failed,
You always seek to create a future where we can shine.
This is why we gather to worship You.
This is why we seek to join together with others all over the world to sing your praises.
This is why we join with all of heaven to celebrate the redemption of every single precious soul,
even our own.

Jesus was hunted down even as a baby.
The world was not safe.
The world was not kind.
The world was filled with trauma.
Jesus understands the confusion and the pain of rejection.
Jesus understands what it feels like to be unloved and blamed for things out of your control.
Jesus found ways to rise above it all.
Jesus kept the faith and held on to hope for those who could not do it alone.

Jesus kept being kind.
Jesus was fiercely loving;
With those who betrayed him;
with those who denied his friendship;
with those who left him to die alone.
The world could not beat him down.

Jesus showed us the way to live,
when he took the bread of Passover.
It was set aside to remind us we are not the only ones mistreated.
He took this bread speaking words of gratitude, and then said:
“Take, eat, this is my body broken and given for you.”
Remember you are not alone. God is on your side.

Jesus showed us the way to live,
when he raised the cup of Passover wine.
It was set aside to remind us of the damage done by uncaring hearts.
He took this wine speaking words of gratitude and then said:
“Share this cup, all of you, for this is the cup of my blood,
poured out for everyone in honor of God’s eternal covenant of grace,
promising forgiveness of your sins and the sins of everyone else.

Remember you are not alone. God is on your side.

God is on our side.

God cares.

We celebrate the mystery of Christ.

Christ was tortured to death.

Christ arose refusing to hate.

Christ will never leave us on our own.

Stubborn Grace. Unrelenting Mercy,
touch these gifts of bread and wine,
allow them to become for us the body and blood of Christ.

Stubborn Grace. Unrelenting Mercy
touch the gift of our lived experience,
allow us to become for the world, your church,
the holy presence and the bride of Christ.

Stubborn Grace. Unrelenting Mercy
touch the lives of girls who are being pushed out by society.
Heal the trauma of their neglect and abuse.
Give them hope for a future of love and respect.
We ask in the name of Jesus who loves us,
in the name of the Holy Spirit who empowers us to love others,
in the name of the Creator who is recreating a world of love and acceptance.
Hear our prayer, and be given all the honor and praise. Amen.

As people who have how have been gathered into the arms of God,
let us pray with Christ:

**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 with us this holy mystery found in Christ Jesus our Lord. You have encouraged all to reconnect after the world has pushed out so many out. Use us in the world to care for those who feel like no one cares. Use us to share your love and your mercy. May all feel loved, supported and included by You. Amen.