

A Service of Holy Communion
(The Gift of Diversity)

Invitation: Christ invites to this table those from every place on earth.
Those who are not worthy, people from every station in every culture.
Therefore we come to express our gratitude to the One who will forgive
our sins and restore a right spirit within us.

Confession: **Compassionate Lover of our Souls,
we confess that we have loved ourselves more than we have loved You.
We have loved the riches of this world more than the children You have sent
us to serve. We have worked hard to make sure our will was done, even
before Yours. We have not lived up to Your generous expectations for our
lives and ministries. Have mercy upon us, and hear our humble cries for
forgiveness. Turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh, allow us this
opportunity to repent and allow us to live new lives of humility and grace,
through the merits of Christ alone. Amen.**

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Jesus Christ came into the
world to save sinners. Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Rejoice, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen and amen!**

The Great Thanksgiving:

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 are the One and the Only, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

You are worshiped in every land,

proclaimed in every language,

and Your divine grace is working in every life.

No one people holds exclusive claim upon Your mercy.

No one language can express the fullness of Your praise.

For You envision every knee bowing and every tongue proclaiming that You alone are God.

You claim every soul as Your child

and You desire not even one to perish but for all to experience Your gift of eternal life.

Our imaginations are too small to grasp the magnitude of this Your generosity.

Our minds are too simple to fully comprehend the fullness of Your grace,

we can only stand in awe at the glorious reaction that we experience from Your creation and how all of heaven is moved to continually express their gratitude to You around Your throne proclaiming:

**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.**

You are so holy and we are blessed by the very presence of Your son, Jesus in our lives. You sent Jesus into the margins of human life, into the very heart of our struggles. He was not born to riches and wealth, but born into shame and poverty. Jesus worked as a common laborer, and was rejected by the religious scholars, and those of means. Jesus embraced the neglected of society, gathering around him: women, children, traitors, scoundrels, and thieves. Jesus made Himself unclean, by touching and allowing Himself to be touched by the untouchable: the diseased of body, mind and spirit. Jesus turned no one away, even eating with those who hated him.

To teach us how to love as God loves,
Jesus with thanksgiving,
took the position of the lowest servant
and washed the feet of those who thought they were important.
We are invited to remember Christ's example.

To teach us how to love as God loves,
Jesus with thanksgiving,
took the bread that recalls the needs of the dispossessed.
He broke the bread and shared it saying:
"Take, eat this is my body, given for you."
We are invited to remember Christ's example.

To teach us how to love as God loves,
Jesus with thanksgiving,
took the cup that recalls the consequences of sin.
He shared the cup saying:
"Each of you, drink with me.
In this cup is my blood, poured out joyfully to proclaim
God's eternal covenant of forgiveness with you and with all who believe."
We are invited to remember Christ's example.

We do remember with humility all that You have done for us through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.

We are inspired to follow that example set before us,
and embrace this holy mystery of our faith with all our hearts as we say:

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

Terrible Tempest, Whispering Breeze
allow these gifts of bread and wine to move our hearts
let them become for us the very body and blood of Christ
and transform our souls.

Terrible Tempest, Whispering Breeze
allow these gifts of our lives: our differences and our similarities, move hearts
let them become for the world Your church, the living body and spotless bride of Christ
for the transformation of the world.

Terrible Tempest, Whispering Breeze
respond through us to the cries of the needy,
sacrifice us to extend Your salvation further into Your world,
use us as instruments of Your grace, mercy and peace in the lives of those around us.

All glory, honor and praise to You most holy God, perfect Trinity, all encompassing Love,
now and forever more.

Amen.

Now as the humble servants of Almighty God, let us join in the prayer taught by Jesus in the
language of our souls:

**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.**

A prayer for After Communion:

**Thank you, O God, for extending to us Your grace through this holy mystery.
We have felt the touch of Your mercy upon our lives and experienced the transformation of
our hearts. We want the joy we feel to be experienced by others. Please use our lives to
extend this grace to those who have not yet experienced it, so Your joy may be completed in
them. We ask this with gratitude for all we have gained in Jesus Christ. Amen.**