

Service of Holy Communion for Third Sunday of Easter  
(*Do You Love Me?*)

Invitation:

One: Come and share in this sacred meal prepared by the Savior.  
Christ asks: "Do you love me?" You need to know only one thing:  
Jesus already loves you, accepts you, and wants you to be here.  
Come and feel the embrace of Jesus today.

Confession:

**All: You know that we love you, Lord. We love you even when we deny you before others. We love you even when our minds are filled with doubts. We love you even as we struggle with life and seem to forget that you are always standing by us, never leaving our side. You know that we love you, Lord. Even when it doesn't look like it. Please give us another chance to show you that we do. Amen.**

Words of Assurance:

One: God loved you first, even while you were still enemies. Christ died for your salvation. In the name of Jesus, the lover of our souls, you are forgiven.  
**All: God loved you first, even while you were still enemies. Christ died for your salvation. In the name of Jesus, the lover of your soul, you are forgiven. Hallelujah! Rejoice and be glad.**

Thanksgiving:

One: How can we love you, Lord?  
**All: By loving the least important, we are loving you.**  
One: There is no greater love than laying down our lives:  
**All: For our friends, our enemies, our neighbors, for you.**  
One: May our love please you and bring you joy.  
**All: You know that we love you, may you feel it is our praise.**

One: You are love.  
When we love, we share you with others.  
To love you,  
we must become you.  
We must become love.  
We must be perfected in love, just as you are.

We are in love with you.  
Your presence in our lives make us giddy with joy.  
We are infatuated by your beauty, your creativity, the intimate sound of your voice.  
Your love causes us to sing, the whole world to sing, the whole universe, all of heaven as we say:

**All: You know everything.  
Lord, you know that I love you!**

**I will feed your sheep.**

One: We love you and we love Jesus.  
We love the baby in the manger.  
We love the kid in the temple.  
We love the baptized adult who brought you great joy.  
We love the healer and exorcist.  
We love the calmer of storms  
and the feeder of thousands.  
We even loves the one who calls us to wash feet.

**All: You know everything.  
Lord, you know that I love you!  
I will feed you lambs.**

One: We love that Jesus took  
the bread of suffering with thanksgiving  
broke the bread sharing it with everyone, saying:  
“Take and eat, this is my body broken and given for you.”

We love that Jesus took  
the wine of judgement with thanksgiving  
poured the wine sharing it with everyone, saying:  
“Drink all of you, this is the cup of my blood  
poured out in gratitude for God’s eternal covenant of grace.  
The promise of forgiveness for all your sins and those of the whole world.”

You know everything.  
Lord, you know that we love you,  
hear now our affirmation of faith:

**All: Nothing can separate us from the love of God,  
Not Christ’s death  
Nor the resurrection,  
nor the coming judgement.**

One: Eternal, All Embracing Love  
use these gifts of bread and wine  
to reveal to us the body and blood of Christ,  
your presence.

Eternal, All Embracing Love  
use us, our hopes and dreams  
to reveal to the world your church  
the body and bride of Christ,  
your presence.

Eternal, All Embracing Love  
use the churches of the Choptank Charge  
as instruments of your love:  
let them be your comforting voice,  
let them be your life changing touch,  
let them be your compassionate presence in their communities.

**All: You know everything.  
You know we love you most holy Trinity.  
Receive our prayer in your sacred name. Amen.**

One: Let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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:

**All: Thank you for loving us enough to include us in this holy mystery in Jesus Christ.  
You have given us not only an opportunity to feel loved by you, but you have given  
us a chance to proclaim once again our love for you. Now send us out to be your  
love in the world so that you may be clearly, seen, heard, and felt, through us.  
Amen.**