

Great Thanksgiving

(Transition)

Beloved, know that all of you are God's children.

We really do not appear to be.

We know that Christ came as one of us.

We therefore can become just like Christ.

We have this hope.

We seek to purify ourselves because in You we experience pure love.

Creative Change, You cause everything to evolve.

Nothing stays the same, except Your rhythmic patterns of constant flux.

You are a lover of developing themes and infinite variations.

You delight in creating each moment fresh and new,
filled with the wonder of what it may yet become.

For You, the future is not fixed, it is always becoming.

In You hope is always springing to life, because we are free to change, to become, to expand.

We are not fixed by the past:

old thinking,

old ways,

past expectations,

traditional beliefs and practices.

You are the Singer of the new songs.

You are the Architect of the new dwelling place.

You are the painter of each new dawn, always looking to Your next masterpiece.

You invite us to join with you, in dreaming new dreams and seeing new visions.

Your wish is for us to be as thrilled as You are that the old is passing away,

so that You care create all things new again;

even us.

This is why the whole creation declares You:

Holy!

This is why heaven and earth declare You:

Wonder filled!

This is why young and old declare You:

Amazing Lover of our souls!

Jesus stunned the world by transitioning from heaven to earth;

transitioning from immortal to mortal;

transitioning from all powerful to powerless;

transitioning from all knowing to wondering.

Jesus stunned the religious world by transitioning from judgement to pardon;

transitioning from the written law to a faith in a grace written upon each heart;

transitioning from religious exclusion to radical inclusion of everyone willing to believe it possible.

Jesus stunned his disciples by transitioning from top down to bottom up:
The first became last,
the last became first,
the rich became poor,
the poor become rich,
and the teacher became to one who would stoop down to wash the student's feet.

Jesus stunned those who met to worship in an upper room
When he transitioned an ancient ritual that remembered the past,
into a future direction of sacrifice and grace:
The bread of Passover transitioned to the bread of redemptive sacrifice:
"Take eat this is my body given for you."
Remember Christ changed everything.

Jesus continued this transition after supper:
The wine of Passover became the life of redemptive sacrifice:
"Share this cup with me, it contains my blood poured out to proclaim my faith in God's promise
of forgiveness given not only to you but to the whole world."
Remember Christ changed everything.

Christ transitioned and so shall we.
In Christ we transition from sinner to saint;
we transition from those who were strangers to friends of God;
we transition from those who were mortal to those who are immortal,
the perishable to the imperishable.
This is the essence of the mystery we proclaim in Christ Jesus:

Christ transitioned from life to death to life again.
In Christ we have transition from endless death to life eternal.
Just like Christ we are transitioning from glory to glory to glory.

Wind of Change, Renewing Vision,
Help us experience the transition of this bread and this wine
into the blessed body and blood of Jesus Christ
The renewal of our souls.

Wind of Change, Renewing Vision,
Help the world experience this transition of our lives
into Your church, the blessed body and bride of Jesus Christ
The renewal of our souls.

Wind of Change, Renewing Vision,
Help all who are going through transitions.
Help them become more than they ever dreamed or imagined possible.
Help them be true to themselves and open to the future You alone create.

We pray these thoughts with Christ, through Christ, before Christ
with the necessary help of the Holy Spirit,
to bring glory, honor and praise to You, The Imaginative Creator of us all.

Amen.

Now as those who have transitioned with Christ, let us pray these words: