

Great Thanksgiving
(*Wisdom of God*)

Open wide your understanding.

God's ways are not our ways.

Set free your compassion.

God's thoughts are not our thoughts.

Humble yourselves.

The fear of the Lord is only the beginning of wisdom.

Answer to our Confusion, Your invitation is to follow.

Our calling is to be open to learn.

For your wisdom is intelligent,
holy, unique, and many faceted.

Your wisdom is subtle, flexible, and surprisingly uncomplicated,
certain, pure, and persuasive,

but at the same time Your wisdom is gentle, kind, gracious and steadfast.

Your wisdom is the proof against all error.

Nothing is hidden from it's view,

Nothing is beyond its power,

Nothing can match Your wisdom's agility.

And Your deepest desire is that we will sit at Wisdom's feet to learn from Her.

May we trust Her and not lean upon our own understanding.

That heaven and earth may share in the joy of our salvation.

Wisdom is perfect

Reviving our very soul.

Wisdom is faithful

Making us all wise.

The Wisdom of God is right,

It gladdens the heart.

God's Wisdom is pure,

Giving us enlightenment.

Wisdom is correct,

It lasts forever.

God's Wisdom is true,

Totally righteous. (*Psalm 19:7-9*)

You are wise, and Jesus is the living expression of Your Wisdom.

Christ spoke with Your authority.

Christ was Your very word, and through him everything is created.

The Wise Word Jesus lived was love.

Love for those on the margins that the foolish saw as unimportant.
Love for those who were shunned that the foolish did not see as needed.
Love for those who were condemned that the foolish could not see redeemed.
Love that was able to forgive us
when we are so foolish that we do not realize what we are doing.

Foolishly the disciples
thought that they were too important to serve,
so Jesus expressed Your wisdom by washing their feet.
Service to others is the Wisdom of God.

Jesus expressed Your wisdom,
by taking the bread of freedom
and with gratitude shared it with all, saying:
“Take and eat, this is my body given for you.”
Sacrifice for others is the Wisdom of God.

Jesus expressed Your wisdom
by taking the cup, the cost of redemption,
and with gratitude shared it with all, saying:
“Drink with me all of you, for this is the cup of my blood,
poured out to establish God’s covenant with you and the world
guaranteeing the forgiveness of sins.”
Grace is the Wisdom of God.

We have seen Your wisdom lived out in the life,
death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
It is a mystery that is beyond our complete understanding,
but in faith we seek to proclaim it with our words and life:

**The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed.
The message of the cross is the power of God to those who are being saved.
To those who are called Christ is God’s power and God’s wisdom.**

Holy Wisdom, Simple Truth
reveal through these gifts of bread and wine
the eternal truth, the body and blood of Jesus Christ,
sacrificed for the salvation of the world.
Holy Wisdom, Simple Truth
reveal through our humble contrite lives
the eternal truth, the church, the body and bride of Jesus Christ
sacrificed for the salvation of the world.

Holy Wisdom, Simple Truth
make us willing vessels in Your hands.
Free us from our willful foolish ways,

our clinging to all that seems so good to us
but is leading to the destruction of Your church and environment.
Help us trust Your vision, Your mercy, and Your grace.
Help us trust in You, Your Love, and Your Wisdom, now and forever.

Amen.

Now let us follow Your wisdom and pray with Christ: