God’s Grand Story and the Communion Cross woven through the Psalms

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.” Psalm 9:1 (NRSV)

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CREATION and Fall

God made a beautiful world that became broken by sin. God promised to conquer sin and evil, and to redeem all of Creation.

“Sing to the LORD all the earth.” Psalm 96:1 (NIV)
God delivered the Israelites from slavery through the blood of the Passover Lamb. They crossed the Red Sea, and God fed them with manna in the wilderness.

“Your path led through the sea... though your footsteps were not seen.”
Psalm 77:19 (NIV)
God with US

At the first Christmas, the Word of God became flesh and lived among us. "We have beheld his glory." John 1:14 (RSV)

"In the LORD I take refuge... the upright shall behold his face." Psalm 11:1,7 (NRSV)
John recognized Jesus as the Lamb of God and baptized him in the Jordan River.

"Let the floods clap their hands, let the hills sing together for joy." Psalm 98:8 (NRSV)
At the Cana wedding Jesus turned water to wine, revealing his glory.

“All people...feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.” Psalm 36:7,8 (NRSV)
Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven." John 6:51 (NRSV)

"I am the LORD your God... I would feed you with the finest of wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you." Psalm 81:10,16 (NRSV)
The Last Supper

At the Last Supper, Jesus broke the bread and shared the cup, his body and blood given for the forgiveness of sins.

"Praise the LORD...who forgives all your sins and heals...upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry...so great is his love.” Psalm 103:1,3,11; 146:7 (NIV)
The Righteous One took our sins on the cross and defeated death by death.

In agony, Jesus echoed the psalmist's cry: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Psalm 22:1 (NRSV)
The Risen Christ entered the Holy of Holies where he continually intercedes for us.

“Lift up your heads O gates! and be lifted up O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.”

Psalm 24:7 (NRSV)
The believers gathered in the Upper Room, calling out to God and singing psalms of hope. During the Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came.

“I call on the LORD in my distress, and he answers me.” Psalm 120:1 (NIV)
Today

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity! For there the LORD bestows his blessing,…life forevermore.” Psalm 133:1,3 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit empowers us to go out and invite others to join the feast, until Jesus comes again.

Communion

Christians around the world celebrate the Lord’s Supper, Jesus revealed in the Breaking of the Bread.
Now to god WHO LED the people like a flock by the hand of Moses,

WHO BROUGHT AGAIN FROM THE DEAD OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the great Shepherd of the sheep who is the Lamb of God,

be glory in the Church and in the Breaking of the Bread until Jesus comes.

AMEN.

(based on Psalm 77:20 & New Testament verses)