

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Today's Communion liturgy is a responsive prayer.

Pastor: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessed are you, strong and faithful God. From the beginning, your Word has summoned light and life.

People: You give us breath and speech, that all the living might find a voice to sing your praise.

Holy, holy, holy, 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.

Pastor: All holy God, how wonderful is the work of your hands!

People: You restore the beauty of your image when sin has scarred the world.

Pastor: As a loving parent you gather your children.

People: You fill them with longing, for a peace that will last, and for a justice that will never fail.

Pastor: For them you raised up Jesus, the living bread, in whom ancient hungers are satisfied.

**People: Healing the sick though bound to suffer pain,
Offering life to the world though doomed to die,
Jesus in self-surrender proved love stronger than death.**

Pastor: Creator God, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over our earthly gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the body and blood of Christ.

HYMN: Beneath the Cross of Jesus # 92

People: Let us remember together the story of his suffering love:

Pastor: On the night before he met with death, Jesus came to table with those he loved, took bread and giving thanks to the God of all creation; He broke the bread among his disciples and said:

*Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you.
Let us eat the bread together...*

When supper was ended, he took the cup and gave thanks to the God of all creation; He passed it among his disciples and said:

*Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all to bring forgiveness. Do this in memory of me.
Let us drink the cup together...*

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

**All glory and honour is yours,
almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen.**