

THE SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST

INVITATION

As we practice communion by intinction, you're invited to come forward via the center aisle and depart by the side aisles to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward and need to be served at your seat, please indicate this by raising your hand near the end of the sacrament.

Sacraments are embodiments of the good news of God's Word. Each of us are so precious to God that our Lord has been broken so that you might know the wholeness of eternal life. He was baptized with the baptism of death, drinking to the empty dregs the cup God placed before him, so that we might know life in all its fullness. This bread of life, this cup of blessing are set before us to nourish us as the body of Christ's blessing for the world. So come, let us join in this foretaste of the meal of God's Kingdom, spread out for us as we serve and are served in Christ's name.

HYMN: In the Cross of Christ I Glory # 84 (blue hymnal)

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

You hold all our days in your hand, the same hand that spangled stars in the sky and shaped dust into human form.

You breathed your life into us earthlings,
and set us in your world to love and serve you.

But we reject your love.

Yet you continue to woo us, calling us through prophets to return to a covenant of love with you. Therefore, with all of creation, the heavenly angels, and all saints, we lift our voices in praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
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, hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you that you sent Jesus to capture us with your love.

Living as one of us, baptized in Holy Spirit, he taught us your Way.

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Even as our sin was betraying him, he sat at table with his disciples and took bread and blessed it and broke it, saying,

This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took a cup, and said,

“Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

We remember your faithfulness unto death, O Lord, and look with awe upon your tortured love bleeding accursed upon a tree.

We celebrate Christ’s rising that released us from bondage to sin.

Following you into the promised Dominion of God, we confidently sing the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Thank you, for the gift of this table set as a sign of your Kingdom in our midst.

Come now, Holy Spirit, and move among us

that we might perceive your presence and our union with all the saints of all times and places as we partake of this covenant meal of your Dominion.

We offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, devoted to following you and praying for the hungry world you call us to serve as your body . . .

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(in unison)*

BREAKING THE BREAD AND LIFTING THE CUP

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

(Please come forward to receive the gifts of the Lord.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison)*

Thank you, gracious God, for the gift of life. Thank you for Christ and his indwelling Spirit among us. Help us discipline ourselves to walk in the Way of the Lord, that we might serve all of creation in love, to the glory of God, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.