

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All persons seeking the presence of Christ in their lives
are invited to share in this Holy Communion.
(We offer a Gluten Free Communion alternative)*

INVITATION:

This is the joyful feast of the people of God where the light of Christ is offered that will lead us out of the darkness of our lives to Christ's table where we are offered grace healed eyes to behold Christ's presence in all of creation and in each of our neighbors.

COMMUNION PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

PASTOR AND PEOPLE:

Pastor: Gather us at table, Shepherd God. Gather us, in our trusting and in our doubting,

People: **to gift us with bread that meets this day's need.**

Pastor: Gather us, when meaning escapes our understanding,

People: **to taste a cup that opens our eyes and spirits to wisdom and presence.**

Pastor: Gather us, in our yearnings for place,

People **to find our place at this table.**

Pastor: Holy God, your raisings of hope and new life make faith possible, as this your table nourishes us time and again with the gift of that hope and new life. So nourished, we join with all creation to praise life's source and destiny.

People: **Holy, Holy, Holy One,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest!**

PASTOR:

Oh God of our ancient ancestors and our God, hear the prayers of joy that we share:
(Lift up your prayers of joy)

Listen, Holy Comforter, to our prayers of concern:
(Lift up prayers of concern)

We gather up these prayers, as we pray in a unison voice.

ALL PRAY TOGETHER:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Lord, we thank you for your presence known to others and to us in the breaking of bread and the drinking of the cup, your joy to offer, and our blessing to receive. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

People: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying:

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

People: In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying:

Pastor: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS:

Pastor: Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

Pastor: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of salvation we participate in the new life Christ.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: The gifts of God for the People of God. Come, for all things are ready.

THE COMMUNION:

(Today we receive the communion elements in our pews. Please wait until we have finished serving each other the bread. Then we will eat our bread together. After serving each other the cup, we will drink our juice together. Gluten free rice cakes are available on each tray.)

Thanksgiving Prayer: (in unison)

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Communion Stewards Today: Debra Maloney-Evans, Peter Evans, Billie Porter and Kayla Barrows.