

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, for you made us, most holy God. And before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

We praise you, O God, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus. We praise you for his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our “harmless generalities,” for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness and restoring us forever to you. For these gifts we praise and worship you.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you. All that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

Jesus was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the guest. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the time when Christ can make us new. So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and the fruit of human labor.

In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

Now gathered as one in the power of the Spirit, let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION

INVITATION

Dear People of God,
This is the Table, not of the church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love Him
and for those who want to love Him more.
So come, You who have much faith
and you who have little,
You who have been here often
and you who have not been here long,
You who have tried to follow
and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is His will that those who want Him
should meet Him here and now.

All is now ready.
Come to the to the Table.
Taste, and see!