

Ecumenical Service Communion¹

Invitation to the Table

Sisters and brothers, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast he has prepared.

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: God be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God,

Leader: Let us give thanks to God most high.

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

Leader: All praise to you, God our Creator, for by your Word and Spirit you made the heavens and the earth, filled them with life and declared everything good.

All praise to you, God our Redeemer, for sending prophets, apostles, teachers, and martyrs, inspired by your Spirit to speak the word of life, and when the time was right, for becoming fully human in Jesus Christ. All praise to you, God our Helper; as wisdom, you inspire us to speak the truth; as power, you strengthen us to do justice. With your sons and daughters of faith, in all times and places, and with all the heavenly host, we praise you with joy.

All: "Santo es nuestro Dios"

Leader: Loving God, in gratitude we remember that on the night before the crucifixion, Jesus took bread and, after giving thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper, Jesus took the cup and, after giving thanks, gave it to them and said: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." In gratitude for what Christ has done for us, we proclaim our hope.

All: Memorial Acclamation (*Tune: early American folk hymn, arr. Richard Proulx*)
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Holy God, send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ. Through this meal unite us with the risen Christ so that we may give ourselves for the life of the world. Through us bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. Give us the power to work for justice that all the world may be filled with peace and joy. This sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we offer you, eternal God, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: Amen.

¹ Ecumenical Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 7-7-10, 219th General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN

Leader: With the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

All: (The Lord's Prayer)

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

Leader: The bread we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

All: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Leader: The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

All: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one cup.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

All: God of glory, you nourish us with bread from heaven. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine into all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.