

Service of the Lords Supper

This is an open table. You do not have to have been baptized or be a member of this or any church to take part in this meal. We invite you to receive these gifts of life and blessing, given freely by a compassionate God.

Communion Hymn (see insert) “Down at the Cross” HFG #255

Deacon #1

This is a season of wilderness-
The season we grasp to understand the Divine just a little more.
This is the time for us to reach inwards to find the self that God sees.
This is the chance for us to gaze outwards, caring for the Christ in our midst.
The Lenten roads are long
Yet full of gifts.

The Lenten paths often seem chilly
Yet warm with the winds of the Spirit.
The Spirit of God is the light that leads us in the hushed nights.
The Christ is our companion on the journey in the intense sunlight of day.
We remember his time in the wilderness-
The struggles. The hunger. The peace.
And as we seek the Divine in our midst,

On this journey, we crave the bread of life.
On our desert roads, we thirst for the fruit of the vine, the cup of blessings.
Through Jesus the Christ’s story, we remember the night before his arrest,
The night of serenity, solemnity, and love.

Deacon: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

People: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

Deacon: The Holy One be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Deacon: Open our hearts to the one who is love.

People: We open our hearts to you, O God.

Deacon: Let us give thanks to God, who gives us courage.

People: The one who calls us to lives of service, we give thanks and praise.

All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Deacon #2:

Gracious One, we struggle with spirits of fear and greed that tempt us away from your original plan for us. We excuse ourselves from responsibilities to our neighbors. We struggle to believe we have anything to offer to the whole. And at times we knowingly do harm to others for the sake of our own gain.
You know our struggles, O God. And so, you sent us Jesus.
In him we learn how to show up for one another. Jesus lived in service to collective well-being. He sought out those in need of community. He befriended the ones who were isolated. He challenged the structures that destroy.
Through his life, you taught us that the same capacities live in us. We too can choose the way of service to collective life. You have given each of us gifts to play our part.

The same spirit of courage that kept Jesus proclaiming love even in the face of death lives in us.

Rev: Words of Remembrance

On the night of his arrest, Jesus shared a meal with his companions.
He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said:
“This is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

After the meal, he took the cup, blessed it, and shared it saying:
“This cup that is poured out is the new covenant.”

In remembrance of all you have done to save us,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

ALL: Christ was birthed among us.

Christ was killed among us.

Christ rises again among us.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts and make this bread and this cup sustenance for our continued Lenten journey. By your grace, may we experience anew the call you place on our lives to serve one another. In feasting at your table, may our hearts be filled with courage once again to follow Christ, come what may.
In collective we long for a taste of your presence on earth.

Serving God’s People

All are welcome at this table. Please come forward in two lines down the center aisle, take the bread and the cup from one of the deacons standing on either side. Please return to your seats down the outside aisles. If you are not able to come forward, one of our Deacons will bring the plate and cup to you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving