

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

“Near the Cross” HFG #254, vs. 1,3&4

**Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream,
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

Refrain:

**In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.**

**Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star
Shed His beams around me. [Refrain]**

**Near the cross! I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever;
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river. [Refrain]**

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 Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Deacon: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Deacon: Let us give thanks to God.

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

Deacon 2:

We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it.

We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history.

We take courage in the peace of your abiding presence, the Holy Spirit in our midst.

We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify you

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!

Rev: Words of Remembrance and Sharing of the Lords Table

We come to this table to remember how you became human through your son Jesus. Who on the night he was forsaken by some of His beloveds, shared food and wine with all those he loved.

There is one loaf, and we, who are many, are one body. We partake of the one loaf. From it we draw sustenance and life. The loaf connects us to the past, the present and the future. The loaf is the bread of the earth and the bread of heaven. Connecting us to the earth and sky and to each other.

The bread which we break is also our symbol of the body of Christ broken and given to us.

We also drink from the cup. It is the cup of life- sorrow and joy shared each of us in our heart and also shared by Jesus.

He took bread, the symbol of life, broke it and shared it with them saying this is my body broken for you.

And he took a cup of wine, symbol of celebration and joy, shared it with them saying this is my life poured out for you.

We come here to do the same.

Come, Fresh Wind. Come, Holy Spirit

Move over these symbols of life and celebration,

Let this bread be nourishing to our spirits. Let this wine quench our thirsty souls, let these symbols be your body and blood for us.

Sharing of the Lords Table

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