

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 “The Old Rugged Cross” HFG #256, vs. 1,2& 4

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. *[Refrain]*

To that old, rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. *[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 the Lord our God.

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

Deacon: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

People: From before time, you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon #2:

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table

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!

Words of Remembrance (Rev and Rev. Nancy Spencer Smith)

Then, the time came for him to complete His purpose upon the cross, the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: *“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”*

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: *“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”*

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