

# SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION for EASTER SUNDAY



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in Your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might!**

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

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. By Your great mercy, we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Your Son from the dead, and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are Your people, declaring Your wonderful deeds in Jesus Christ, who has called us out of the darkness into His marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, He promised to be with us always, in the power of Your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which He gave Himself up for us, He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

When the supper was over He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

On the day You raised Him from the dead, He was recognized by His disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of Your Holy Spirit, Your church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!**

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood. By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at His heavenly banquet. Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church, all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen!**

### **GIVING the BREAD and CUP**

When we share the bread, we remember Christ as the Bread of Life.

➤ *Please carefully peel off the top layer for the wafer...*

The body of Christ, given for you. Take and eat!

➤ *Please eat the wafer symbolizing the body of Christ...*

When we drink from the cup,

we remember the cup of Christ's suffering.

➤ *Please carefully peel off the next layer for the juice...*

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Take and drink!

➤ *Please drink the juice symbolizing the blood of Christ...*

**Note: Gluten-free bread is available for any who desire that option. Please let one of the ushers know, and they can provide that for you.**