The Invitation

On this day, people of faith all over the world gather at Christ’s table. In languages as diverse as God’s people, and tables of every size and shape, we proclaim, together, the unity of our life in Christ. This table belongs to Christ and extends to every corner of the Earth. On World Communion Sunday, may joy be made complete. May we share in one mind, in one love, and in one Spirit.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

 **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give you praise, O God. You created the world and all that is in it. The startling diversity of the Earth and its creatures were made by you and pronounced good.

Called into life-giving partnership with each other and you, we chose instead, to seek dominance and bring about division. We have betrayed each other and denied your image, which is present in every person.

But in each place of shadow and pain and in every divisive moment you have sought us out again, to reconcile us to one another and to you. Therefore with our parents in faith, from every time and place, we sing the fullness of your witness to your world saying:

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

**God of meekness and service**

**Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, your presence, and your pain**

**Our very bones cry out Hosanna, Hosanna, Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord**

Holy are you, God of Grace, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Choosing to leave the shelter of heaven, he comes to gather us into a new family.

Your Son Jesus came as a servant to wash away our pride and feed us with the bread of life. We praise you for inviting us to serve one another without pride, to forgive one another as we have been forgiven, and to feast at his table as members of one household.

God of mystery: send your Holy Spirit upon us and on these gifts of bread and cup. Prepare us to receive your presence and to know your grace. May this one bread nourish our bodies and may It nourish the fullness of our lives. May this cup that we share wet our parched and silent throats and may It quench our deep and yearning thirst. Here at this table, may we remember the table in the Upper Room, tables of abundance many of us enjoy at home, the empty tables of the poor and hungry, and the banquet table in the Life to come. Let this meal reshape our every meal, so that the justice and mercy known here will become our way of life. May we become a people for whom the hunger pangs of the poorest child will disrupt the feasting of the satisfied. There is enough food for all, enough peace for all, enough love for all, enough hope for all, enough grace for all. In this truth and in this hope we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died**

**Christ is risen**

**Christ will come again**

Until you appear again among us, we ask your Holy Spirit’s presence and guidance in a broken world grasping for wholeness. May the church yearn to proclaim the good news of a world made new and a mercy wider than imaginations can span. Teach us to pray continually the prayer our Savior taught, saying:

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

**Prayer after Communion**

**Compassionate God, you have met us in these acts at this table. In this sacrament we receive strength to walk with all your children in peace, and witness to the truth of your reconciliation and love. Amen**