



***Thanksgiving and Communion  
(From UMH pages 9-11)***

***Passion/Palm Sunday***

***April 2, 2023***

Invitation to communion

God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life. This gift is freely given to all. You don't have to be a church member. Anyone who believes or seeks to believe is invited to come to God's banquet table to be blessed.

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession

**Righteous One, we often ignore the desire of our hearts. We long to sing hosannas with a cheering crowd, but we turn aside at the sight of an angry mob. We yearn to dine lovingly at your table, but we retreat into the courtyard shadows. We hope to defend the one we love, but we succumb to the limits of our strength. It is so easy to betray you with a kiss. Forgive our fickle faith and heal our hesitant hearts, for our spirits ache to be found worthy. Amen.**

Hear the good news: The one the builders rejected has become our cornerstone, the very foundation of our salvation. Christ offers us forgiveness and fullness of grace.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, who has given us the gift of eternal life in Christ. We give you thanks for brothers and sisters who travel together in the ways of peace.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(All Sing)**

**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, who sent the Holy Spirit to be with us, so that we would not be left alone.

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."

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.

**(All Sing)**

**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 are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**(All Sing)**

**Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Prayer after Receiving:

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of**

**your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**