



***The Great Thanksgiving for  
Epiphany Sunday***

**January 4, 2026**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

One: Arise; shine, for the light of Christ is shining upon and within us.

All: **Arise; receive, for the grace of Christ is flowing in and through these gifts.**

One: Gather around.

All: **These gifts are available to all.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful and faithful God, You chose us in love before we ever chose you, and yet we confess that we often begin new seasons trusting our own strength more than your grace. We carry old habits into a new year. We hold onto regrets from the past and worries about the future. We rush ahead when you invite us to abide. We grow impatient with ourselves and with others, forgetting that faith grows slowly, like a child learning to walk. Forgive us, O God, for the ways we resist your gentle work in us.

Forgive us when we measure our worth by productivity instead of resting in your love.

Forgive us when we neglect prayer, overlook our neighbor, or forget that Christ still dwells among us. Return us to You, O God. Awaken us again to your presence. Renew us not by pressure, but by grace, so that we may grow in love, and live as your beloved people. We offer this prayer in silence, trusting your mercy.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Hear the good news: Before the foundation of the world, God chose you in Christ, in love. In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Your past does not define you. Your future is held in God's hands. Your weakness can become a place of grace.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory 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, Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the 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, and spoke to us through your prophets. 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, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

In his baptism and in table fellowship he took his place with sinners. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

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.

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 is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**(All Sing) Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**