

# In Thankfulness and Praise

## *A Liturgy for Communion*

### Gathering

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Presider: We come,  
Joining together as one in worship,  
And gathering at this table,

**All: To be reminded of your presence with us,  
To celebrate your love for us,  
And to give thanks for all you have done for us.**

Presider: Whether we see ourselves as old or young or in between.

**All: We come as we are, in thankfulness and praise.**

Presider: Whether a long-time disciple,  
Or we're just dipping our toes into the waters of faith.

**All: We come as we are, in thankfulness and praise.**

Presider: With doubts and certainties,  
Hopes and fears,  
Questions and wonderings,

**All: We come as we are, in thankfulness and praise.**

### Thanksgiving

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Presider: Jesus said: "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

*Matthew 28: 20b*

So we give thanks, that God is here,  
God in Christ is with us and God's Spirit is among us.

**All: With hearts bursting with praise,  
We come with thanksgiving,  
Lifting our hearts and voices in worship to God.**

Presider: Creating God,  
We come in thankfulness and praise,  
For you are the true and living God,  
Creator of all that has been, is and will be.

**All: Thank you, creating God,  
For creating all that is,  
For creating the world, and us,  
And for creating me.**

Presider: Saving God,  
We come in remembrance of Christ,  
Of who Christ is, and all Christ has done,  
And give thanks for the friendship Christ offer us.

**All: Thank you, Saving God,  
For the life and love of Christ,  
For his love for us,  
And that Christ call me a friend.**

Presider: Sustaining God,  
We give thanks for your presence with us.  
Strengthening us when we are weary.  
And holding us when we are weak.

**All: Thank you, Sustaining God,  
For always being with us,  
Even when we don't feel it.**

Presider: And so, in thanksgiving to God,  
We come to the table,  
As countless others have done, do today and will do.  
Where simple gifts of bread and wine,  
Remind us of a friendship offered,  
Presence promised,  
And love revealed.

We remember how, at supper with his friends,  
Jesus took bread, broke it and shared it with them,  
Saying eat and remember me.

How Jesus poured wine,  
And shared it with his friends,  
Saying drink and remember me.

**All:**       **We come, living Jesus,  
To eat this bread and drink this wine,  
To remember you, and give thanks for your love for us.**

**Presider:**   **Living God, Send down your Spirit,  
That as we share together in these gifts of bread and wine,  
They will be Christ to us.**

**As we share together in this meal,  
As your people in this place,  
may your Spirit rest upon us,  
Uniting us in thankfulness and praise,  
That all we are will sing of your goodness and love.**

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### **Invitation**

**Presider:**   **Come, for God's table is open.  
Come, for all are welcome.  
Come, with thankfulness and praise.**

***The bread and wine are shared***

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### **Sending**

**All:**   **Loving God,  
You have fed us generously at this table,  
As we have remembered Jesus,  
And rejoiced that he is with us today.**

**We are ready now to follow you,  
And to be your people in the world.  
May your Holy Spirit show us the way,  
Make us holy and fill us with love.**

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