

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you. **During this time you are invited to bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel.** Our Stephen Ministers will be positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right that we should always give thanks to you, God of steadfast love. We give thanks that you are not a distant God, but one who hears the prayers of your children. You revealed how deeply you love all peoples of this world when you entered our human history in Jesus Christ, the One who touches our lives with healing and wholeness, the One who touches our lives with a love that is unending and unconditional. And so, with your people everywhere on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: 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.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. At this table we bear witness to his love which has been poured into our hearts and lives. We remember a night long ago when Jesus gave himself up for us, how he sat at table with his disciples. At that meal, he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." We remember and we give thanks for such outpouring of love and grace

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us again, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ – His life in us. Renewed by your Spirit we offer ourselves in ministry here and everywhere. For all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

All: Amen.