

Lent Three Order of Communion

Communion Hymn VU 480 Let Us Break Bread Together

Gathering Prayer

When things become cross-shaped and the way pulls us forward beyond where we have been before, when our nourishment is found in bread and wine, food for the journey and not a celebration at the end of anything; when our souls recoil with the thought of what lies ahead and the story we have to hear once more and the crumbling away of heaven's promises, meet us here, ***O God, at the table of sacrifice and suffering, of promise and future, and open our eyes to the shape of that future.***

Meet us here where everything we believe becomes real and all on which we stake our faith becomes tangible in bread and wine, in being here and nowhere else today.

Meet us here, for this meal needs sharing with those willing to travel on the journey and the way of the cross.

Meet us here and bless what we do as we break this bread and pour this cup.

Welcome, because it matters, we all matter, because bread and wine matter, where all are welcome here to taste and see the good thing God is doing.

The Sharing of the Bread and Wine

Please wait until all have been served

Welcome to the table of life.

And so, we take the bread of life and eat together.

We hold the cup of love and salvation, and we drink together.

This we do in anticipation of the journey we have begun.

Thanksgiving Prayer

God of bread and wine,
Jesus, resurrection's promise,
Spirit, voice in the wilderness,
We meet you in bread and wine to tell salvation's story.
On the edge of promise and teetering on the brink of the
cross, we share your feast, waiting, along with the world
for justice, renewal, and new life.

***And so, we hold silence and listen for your call.
We hold silence and know such silence is all we
can give in response to the news of your journey
towards the cross***

(silence)

Hear us as say with the people:

***Holy, holy, holy,
God of presence and infinite space,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name,
hosanna in the highest.***

This is our thanksgiving for all you have done and will be
doing, for justice and life, for truth and forgiveness, for
promise and salvation. ***Amen***