

# Holy Communion

## The Great Thanksgiving

### Word and Table II ♦ For Easter Sunday - B

Adapted from: *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

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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, O Lord our God, King of the universe! You fashioned us from the elements of creation, breathed into us your breath of life, and appointed us your ambassadors upon earth. Far from accepting your love, we have turned our backs on you and, with prideful arrogance, have proclaimed our own will rather than your will. Despite our sin, you continued to strive with us, sending your Word into the world to proclaim your love for all. And so, with your children on earth and all the host of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

Throughout the season of Lent we were reminded that, even though we have forsaken your love, your love has never forsaken us. Your grace is more amazing than our sin, your peace is more comforting than our strength, your spirit is more powerful than our fear. In the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, you revealed your grace, your peace, and your strength to the world. His words taught us the way of life, his acts showed us the way of life, and his death and resurrection opens the way of life for us all. And so, today, we praise you for the victory over sin and death which we have in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:

Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!

**The Lord is Risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus 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 the cup 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."

**On the day you raised Jesus from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread; and in the power of your Holy Spirit we your Church have continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.**

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:

**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 your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our savior Christ has taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Because there is one loaf, we, who we 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.

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