

The Sacrament of Holy Communion [A]

The Table of Jesus Christ

"Open to All"

Preparation for Receiving the Sacrament

One: Luke the Evangelist wrote of our Risen Savior Jesus Christ that when he was at table with two of his disciples, he took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them, and their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.

All: In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know Christ in the breaking of the bread.

One: For our Savior Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
In the same way, Jesus also took the cup after supper, saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!
Come from the East and the West, and from the North and the South,
and gather around Christ's Table.

All: How wonderful it is when God's children live together in harmony.

One: The peace of our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: Amen.

Consecration of the Bread and the Cup

One: Let us pray. Gracious God, by your Word and Spirit, bless us and these gifts of bread and wine, that in receiving them at this table, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may remain faithful to the tasks Christ sets before us.

All: In the strength Christ gives, we offer ourselves to you, giving thanks that you have called us to serve. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Let us pray together.

All: Eternal God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at this communion table through your presence as Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen!