

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION*(With Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon)*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And, also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

Congregation: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right to give God thanks and praise, and yet we know that all of us sin and fall short of God's glory. Let us confess, first silently.

Pastor: Let us now join our voices to confess.

All people: Gracious God, you have promised to receive us when we come to you. We confess we have disobeyed your commandment to love. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may forever, hereafter, serve and love, to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.

Pastor: Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether. The past is finished and gone. Everything has become fresh and new. Friends believe the good news of the gospel:

All people: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Pastor: In gratitude for God's mercy and the chance to begin anew, let us lift our voices in song, to give God our thanks and praise.

All sing: Gloria Patri Hymnal, #493

Pastor: We celebrate the Holy Spirit of God, who hovered over creation and brought order out of chaos and formlessness.

Congregation: We praise you, Holy Spirit of God.

Pastor: We celebrate the Holy Spirit, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and through Him, made the life of God available to all.

Congregation: We praise you, Holy Spirit of God.

Pastor: We celebrate the Holy Spirit of God, who gave birth to the church, which has been poured out on all people, and leads them into the Kingdom of God.

Congregation: We praise you, Holy Spirit of God.

Pastor: As we gather at the Lord's Table, we recognize the Holy Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence.

All people: Lord, we come, knowing that we depend on you for life and truth and love. We come, knowing that you welcome us with open and accepting

arms. We come, ready to meet with you and to be changed by the encounter around this holy meal. Amen.

Pastor: On the eve of his crucifixion, Jesus gathered with his friends for a meal. During supper, he took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and passed it among them with these words:

Congregation: This is my body, which is broken for you. Take, eat, and remember me.

Pastor: After the meal, Jesus took a cup of wine and gave thanks for it. Then he passed it among them with these words:

Congregation: This is my blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Take, drink, and remember me.

Pastor: Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine and pour out the fire of your Spirit on us. Make us one body, unified that we might be your faithful disciples who boldly proclaim and live the good news of forgiveness, peace, and eternal love. Amen.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Pastor: Those who are able, are invited to come forward to receive communion. For those who may find it difficult to come forward, please raise your hand, or have a neighbor raise their hand for you, and an usher will direct me, and I will come to you. The bread has been broken into small pieces. When you receive it, you may eat it immediately. Next, both wine and grape juice are offered. Wine is RED. Grape juice is clear. Please commune as you feel called. Ushers will release you from your seat. Please come to the Lord's Table by way of the center aisle and return to your seats by way of the side aisles. This is the Lord's Table, and *everyone* is welcome to receive communion. No one is exempt or excluded. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come! All things are now ready.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

(As time allows)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

A Hymn of Joy We Sing

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Blue Hymnal, #254

Blue Hymnal, #404

Blue Hymnal, #261

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All people: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for this holy meal and for coming to us in the Holy Spirit's power, as we have shared it. May the love we find at this table be reflected in our lives. May the power we receive at this table make us peacemakers and healers. May the Holy Spirit who fills us at this table, lead us out into the world, that we might proclaim God's love in every word we speak and everything we do. In Jesus' name. Amen.