

Hymn: VU 479 (v. 1) – Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

The Chancel Choir of Boston Avenue United Methodist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, performs this Communion hymn as a choral anthem. The lyrics were written in 1931 by Percy Dearmer, a British writer and vicar, and the music was composed in 1957 by Harold Friedell, an American organist, choirmaster, and seminary professor.

Anthem 06-29-2025: “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” by Harold Friedell

- 1 Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

Invitation:

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.
Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.
We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages:
to the saint of old who felt unworthy,
to the seeker eager to know God,

to the teenager who wonders what it's all about,
to the child who eats with unburdened faith.
Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.
There is great joy here.
No one is turned away, for God is the host!

Hymn: VU 479 (v. 2) – Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

[Anthem 06-29-2025: “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” by Harold Friedell](#)

2 As disciples used to gather
 in the name of Christ to sup,
 then with thanks to God the Giver
 break the bread and bless the cup.
 Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
 So now bind our friendship up.

God is in this place.

And in our hearts.

Open yourself to the nudging God.

We feel the breath of the Spirit.

Remember God made flesh.

Jesus, who taught us a new way.

(Allow silence to speak for a few moments.)

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table, to taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith. Time and time again you've offered your grace, even as we have stepped away.

You continue to call us to be your people.

You have never left us.

We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances.

You are ever-patient, always faithful.

We give thanks for this time of celebration.

For the One this meal remembers.

For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

With those who have gone before us,

whose hands touched the bread,

whose lips embraced the cup,

we give you thanks and praise.

We remember those who have been as saints to us. We celebrate their lives. Even death cannot separate us from love.

We remember all those who have gone before us.

(You are invited to name aloud those any who have gone before us.)

This is the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Hymn: VU 479 (v. 3) – Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

[Anthem 06-29-2025: “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” by Harold Friedell](#)

3 All our meals and all our living
 make as sacraments of you,
 that by caring, helping, giving,
 we may be disciples true.
 Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
 In our service faith renew.

Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said: "This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat."

And pouring the cup: "This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Prayer for the Holy Spirit:

God of all, send your Spirit to this place
so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment,
may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with
the saints,
and with our sisters, siblings, and brothers in faith around the world. Be with us God,
not only here but in every moment of our lives. Help us to know you, to be guided by
the Holy Spirit, and to live Christ. Now and forever.

Amen.

Distribution of the Elements:

This is the feast prepared for you.

Come and share, for all is ready.

(Carlisle: Choir is invited down first. Any who wish to remain seated for communion are served. You are invited to come forward for communion, standing in groups of 6

or so at the front. Hold your bread and cup as you are served, then you will be invited as a group to consume the elements together. When you are ready you may return to your seats and the next group will come forward.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion:

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for the gift of presence in the simplicity and splendour of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by the life of Christ that we may faithfully proclaim the Good News of your love and that your church may be a beacon of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.