

The celebration of communion
is always a festival of friends,
a pulling together of our loves and our hopes,
our moments of agony and our glimpses of victory.
It is here, where bread is broken and wine is shared,
that we can most fully be ourselves
and see others for who they truly are:
sons and daughters of the living God.
Here the common things of life—
bread and wine,
memories and dreams—
become holy, touched by God.
Here that which is earthly becomes divine,
and that which is human
becomes more than it has ever dreamed.

Service of the Table

One: The God of every morning be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: People of Easter morning, lift up your hearts!

All: **We lift them to the One
who has raised Jesus from the grave.**

One: People of Easter's joy, give thanks
to the One who raises us to new life.

All: **We sing our hallelujahs
to the God of everlasting love.**

On this day of joy and hope,
Redeemer of the lost,
we sing our praise to you.
Very early in the morning,
your Word shattered the silence of chaos,
and grace flowed forth like a river.

You reached down
and gathered up the dust of creation,
forming us into your image,
and breathing life into us.

Yet the day came
when we chose to turn from you
believing our wisdom was superior
to your will for us.

You sent us the prophets,
to speak of your gracious hope,
but we refused to listen.

When you could have let us remain
in the clutches of sin and death,
you sent Jesus to be one of us,
so we could come home to you.

Therefore, we join our voices this morning
with those who stood at the empty tomb,
as well as those of every time and place,
singing our Easter joy to you:

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Heaven and earth praise you,
O God most high!**

On the eve of his betrayal,
Jesus renewed God's covenant promise.
He took bread, offered the blessing, broke it,
and gave it to those who sat at table with him.
Then, at the close of the meal,
he poured the cup of blessing,
raised it in thanks to God,

and passed it among them.

Holy are you, God of every day,
and blessed is Jesus Christ,
Bright Morning Star.
Creator of all that is good,
he entered the shadows of hell
to lead us into hope's light;
Beloved of your Heart,
he embraced our sin
so we could be forgiven;
Glory beyond imagination,
he welcomed death
so we could enter life eternal.

Even as we believe
what we may not understand,
we trust that mystery we call faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

It is here at this Table,
Resurrecting God,
that we are fed by your love.
As you pour out your Spirit
upon the Bread and the Cup,
fill us with the spirit of Jesus,
so we may go forth to be your people.
Feed us with the Bread of Heaven,
so we can fill the hunger of the world.
Touch our lips with salvation's cup,
so we can proclaim the good news
of this day to everyone we meet.

And when the morning comes
when we are united with all the saints
gathered around heaven's Table,
we will lift our voices to you,
God in Community, Holy in One,
forever and ever. Amen.

Sharing of the Table

(Kilbride: communion will be served in you seats)

(Carlise: communion will be served as follows)

Responses when served:

The bread of life broken for you.

Amen. OR Thanks be to God.

The cup of blessing poured out for you.

Amen. OR Thanks be to God.

*(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. **Communion by intinction:** Take your bread and dip it in the chalice. When all in the group are served and when you are ready you may return to your seats and the next group will come forward.)*

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God, may we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Amen.