The Thanksgiving

We come to this table with joy and thanksgiving, a celebration of the Love that gathers us here, and that wings its way across the ages.
From the beginning, you, Holy Love, brought into being all life, life in abundance, baptizing it with the waters of creation.

You found a people to bear witness to this love for life. You brought them out of enslavement, brought them through waters to a place of bounty, and gave them a purpose, to be a light to the world.

Your love called them to the way of fairness, with dignity for all, but like all of us, they slipped, and slipped again.
You sent prophets to remind them of the way.
In time, Jesus came, to invite all humankind to a table of reconciliation.
On this commemoration of his Last Supper, we rejoice at his words of new life, his way of noticing the Holy in each one.
We give thanks for people everywhere who continue to live out his vision of peace and his words of dignity, healing, and hope.

All Sing: "Sanctus and Benedictus" MV 203
O holy, holy, holy God,
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears your name always!

Remembering Jesus at Table

We celebrate Jesus' birth to ordinary people living in an occupied state, his baptism in the waters of the Jordan into a new commitment to your vision for humanity, his ministry among the hurting and dispossessed people of his day, his happy habit of inviting himself to dinner with anyone and everyone, his communing with vast crowds in outbursts of generosity and sharing, and his challenge to those with power to remember the covenant.

We remember his reinvention of a sacred meal in an upper room long ago, heralding a new liberation, a new naming of family, a new understanding of your communion with humankind, O Holy Love.

He took bread after the meal, gave thanks, and broke it and blessed it, as we do here, and invited his friends to share in the great banquet of love.
Then he took a cup, and in the same way, gave thanks to the earth and workers and the Creator for this gift from the vine.
He filled the cup and invited those around him to enter again into the covenant of love as a sign that Holy Love is stronger than fear, even stronger than death.

A Prayer of Self-Giving

In our time and in this place, we do likewise—taking ordinary ingredients and offering them to one another in love as the taste of freedom, of togetherness, of eager hope. More than a loaf and a cup, we offer our own selves as living bread to be in the world as Jesus was: yeast, salt, and light, for a world more just, more peaceful, more true to the vision of security for all, and for a table stretching through all time where people find that which truly nourishes.

All sing: "Memorial acclamation" MV 204

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again! 2X

Prayer for Transformation

Come, Loving Spirit, to enliven this place, these elements, and this people: bring all who share in the feast into the presence of daring and tender Love.
May the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup make us all participants in Christ's great work of feeding the multitude, healing what is broken and resisting oppression.

May it make us one with the risen Christ, with all God's people, and with the communion of saints, and so nourish us with the bread of justice-seeking and the wine of celebration and thanksgiving, that we may live into God's promised realm of shalom, salaam, peace.

Remembering the Community

As we come to share new life here at table, we remember others, some near and some far away, who wait for a crust of bread or a cup of acceptance, safety, or respect.

Especially, we lift up those with health and mental health issues, those who are trapped in places of conflict and fear, those struggling with identity or unaware of how loved they are, that deep peace may come to people and nations.

We pray for our species and every species as we struggle to limit our burden on the planet, that wisdom may come in time to relax the twin evils of greed and indifference that plague your creation.

Receive now our prayers as we lift up others, sharing aloud and in our hearts. **(prayers from the congregation)**

We pray for ourselves, Ancient of Days, that we may have your Word, Christ Jesus, within us to calm us, inspire us, and heal us in these days of wonder, lament, and opportunity. And now we pray together in the way of the Christ: "**Our Creator, Mother/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 and ever." AMEN**

All sing: "Great Amen" MV 205
Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen! 2X

And now all things are ready. All elements are without gluten and without alcohol so all may participate. All shall be served, and then we shall partake together.

The bread of life; the cup of blessing; for the people of God.

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, you have baptized us, called us beloved, and fed us here at the foretaste of the great banquet of the ages. We lift up our hearts in praise and thanks that we have this privilege, and pray that the Spirit may continue to dance within us all as we are sent forth with your blessing. Amen.

- Revised from Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont. 2024

Welcome



Holy Communion

October 11, 2026

Thanksgiving Sunday

With Little Current United Church

All are welcome at this table.

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One: Holy Love be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up with joy and with thanksgiving.

One: It is a blessing to be in the world with joy, thanks, and courage.
We come to Holy Love's table with eagerness and humility.