

Holy Communion

April 5, 2026

One: The Holy One Asks: "Why spend money on what does not satisfy? Why spend your wages and still be hungry? Listen to me, and do as I say, and you will enjoy the best food of all.

Listen now, my people, and come to me, come to me and you will have life!" "Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there I am, in the midst of them."

And we are gathered. Physically and temporarily at different times and places, but we are gathered with all who have remembered Christ and who will yet do this in his name.

This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow Christ's way. Come to this table not because you must, but because you may.

Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance.

Come, not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence, and to pray for a spirit.

Come to this table then, sisters and brothers, just as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and for me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.

We pray as the people of God our desire for new beginnings and right relations.

All: Holy God - we confess before you and each other that we have been unfaithful to you. We have lacked love for our neighbors and we waste opportunities to do good. We look the other way when you cry out to us in the suffering of our brothers and sisters in need. We are sincerely sorry for our sins -- both those we commit deliberately and those that overtake us. We ask for your forgiveness and pray for strength that we may follow in your way and love all people with that perfect love that casts out all fear.

Strengthen us for the work of proclaiming your love, your new beginnings, and doing the hard work of reconciliation with our neighbors near and far. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

..... "Our Mother/Father/God 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

One: After inviting the sinless to cast the first stone, Jesus waited with his eyes averted. Then he looked up and asked the sinner, "Where are your accusers? Has no one condemned you? Neither do I. Now go, and do not sin." You have a new beginning from God. With this new beginning we can seek to be with peace with all creation. We can seek to live into good, right, proper relationships. We are equals.

So as equals, we come to this table. Here we recall the giving of the Law and the preaching of the prophets. Here we recall Jesus, who in the fullness of time, was born of Mary, lived in our midst, shared in our suffering, and accepted death at the hands of those he loved.

Here we recall in a perfect victory over the grave, God rose Christ with power to become sovereign. Here we celebrate the Holy Spirit that gathers us as a Church, and through which we work as one.

With the faithful in every place and time we praise with joy the holy name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty
the whole universe speaks of your glory
O God most high! Blessed is the one
who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest!**

One: We remember on that night of betrayal and desertion, that Maundy Thursday, Jesus took bread, gave God thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples saying: "This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

And from Peter to John, all the unnamed women, and Judas too - all as equals ate.

In the same way, when the supper was over, Jesus took the cup saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And from Matthew to the sons of Zebedee, and Mary and Martha -- all as equals drank.

O God - consecrate therefore by your Holy Spirit these gifts.

Bless us that as we partake of them at once, as equals, we may offer you our faith and praise and may be united with Christ and united with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. Amen.

Through the broken bread, we participate in the body of Christ. Though the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life, the new beginning, Christ offers us. Now, all things are ready.

This bread is without gluten, and this cup without alcohol, so all may participate. If you would like someone to bring these to you, please send word up with someone. We'll hold everything until everyone is served, and then partake at once as equals.

-- distribute--

This is the body of Christ - the bread of life.

This is the blood of Christ - the cup of blessing.

Let us pray:

We thank you, God, for this foretaste of heaven where all are united, equal, and one. meeting . Strengthen us to serve you with gladness, to be of good courage; to render to no one evil for evil; to support the weak; to strengthen the fainthearted; to help the afflicted; to honor all people; to love and serve you; and to rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

APRIL 5, 2026

EASTER SUNDAY



*Christ
is
Risen!*

He Is Risen Indeed!