**Communion Liturgy**

One: May the Lord of the journey be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Pilgrims of God, lift up your hearts.

**All: We offer them to the One who denied himself to carry us into life forever.**

One: Sing songs of thanksgiving to the God who is faithful in keeping promises.

**All: We offer glad anthems of joy to the One who calls us by name.**

Out of that barrenness called chaos you called into life all that is good and true, Wondrous God: your face shining in the starlight, your voice echoing in the crashing waves, your heart, your hopes, your love poured into those created in your image. Showering them with peace and mercy, you began to teach them all they needed in order to live in hope, and in joy, with you. But setting their minds on all the desires which temptation revealed to them, they began to rebuke you, denying your dreams for them as we thought only of ourselves. You continued to speak of your promises, sending the prophets into all the barren places where we lived and worked and dreamed, but we were ashamed of the words they spoke, and would not listen to the love which formed them. So, you asked the One called Blameless to leave your side and walk before you, coming to share your faith in us. Therefore, we join our voices with those from every time and in every place, and with the choirs of heaven, who forever sing your praises:

**Holy, holy, holy, God who calls life into being.**

**All the ends of the earth and far corners of the universe sing your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes to take up his cross.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

You are holy, God of Abraham and Sarah, and Jesus Christ, God among us, is blessed forever. When he could have stumbled over our distrust, he called us to follow him into your promises; when our rejection could have weakened his faith, he grew strong in his commitment to deny himself; when he could have remained silent, he declared your salvation to all, even to those not yet alive; when he could have hidden his face in fear, he turned towards Jerusalem, going to his death and into the grave, that you might give life to all who have died to sin. As we come to the Table he has prepared, we declare that in his crucifixion and resurrection we find that mystery we call faith:

**Christ died to bring forth life:**

**Christ has risen to declare ‘God has done it’;**

**Christ will come again in glory.**

Here, at this Table, where the gifts of the bread and the cup are offered to your children gathered around, pour out your Spirit of healing and hope. We lift up the names of those today whom we pray will feel your healing Spirit in their lives…

Feed us with the food of heaven which can make us whole once more, so we can go to serve all whom we have treated with contempt. Nourish us with the cup of life which can change us into your faithful people, so we can go to bring healing to those disabled by our prejudices. And when we are brought home to you, when we are gathered with our sisters and brothers from all the ends of the earth, we will sing your glory and grace forever, God in Community, Holy in One.

We remember…

Long ago, so our tradition says, Jesus took bread, offered thanks for it, and broke it: ‘This bread is broken, as my body will be.’ He handed it to his friends, and invited them to eat: ‘Remember all that I have been to you.’

We remember…

Long ago, so our tradition also says, Jesus poured a cup of wine, offered thanks for it, and gave it to his friends: ‘This wine is poured out, as my life will be. As you drink give thanks for all I have given.’

Bread…the very stuff of life.

Wine…fruit of the vine.

Let us share this bread and wine as Jesus lived it, knowing that our lives are forever changed by this and every breaking of bread. Amen.

Prayer after Sharing

Let us give thanks.

**Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion – oneness of heart, love for neighbours, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

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