

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you,

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

O God, you spoke— a word, a yearning, a creation—
'Let there be light!' In that light—your light—creation
dawned through Love.

**Within the deep and abiding light of your Love,
relationships evolved into ever greater complexity:
light upon light, love within love.**

Gazing upon the countless twinkling lights of starry nights,
Sarah and Abraham envisioned their descendants.

**Witnessing the awe-inspiring beauty of a rainbow's light,
Noah perceived your promise of hope and of communion.**

Led by a fiery pillar blazing in the wilderness night, Moses
led a grumbling people into identity as a People of God.

**Following the glorious light of a persistent star, Wise Ones
discovered your vulnerability in a baby boy.**

Hiking to a mountain top for prayer and for retreat, three
disciples witnessed your revealed glory in Jesus:
the Word made flesh, a light of humble self-giving for all people.

Fear, intrigue, uncertainty and doubt overtook too many.

Though Jesus brought liberation to the oppressed as the Light
of the World, we were stopped by our fears,

choosing the familiar instead of the just.

But you, O God, continued to bring forth light, raising the
crucified one to life and to wholeness. Therefore, we join with
all creation to sing:

*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. MV 203*

Words of Institution...

Each time we break this bread and pour this cup, we, too, seek
to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

Each time we break this bread and pour this cup, we, too, seek
to proclaim the reign of God and the mystery of faith:

Sing Christ has died and Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Sing Christ has died and Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

MV 204

God of light and of Love revealed in Jesus,
bathe us in your Spirited light, which brings wholeness.

**Within that light may we know Christ in the breaking
of bread, that in word and in deed we may also become
light and life.**

Into your loving heart, gracious God, we lift those among us
in our community and in our world who yearn for wholeness
in their living and for light in their loving...

(Prayers for the community...)

We turn to you now as a mother, praying the words that Jesus
taught us to pray, saying: **Our Father...**

Amen, Amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

***Amen, Amen, O Holy One! Hosanna, and Amen!** MV 205*

SHARING THE FEAST

*Communion elements of bread cubes and rice crackers are shared
today with tongs; juice is served in separate glasses. Please make your
way to one of the serving stations at the front of the sanctuary, by way
of a centre aisle. Receive the elements, stay for as long as you wish
and then return to your seat by an outside aisle.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Loving One, as our bodies take in the nourishment of your love
expressed in Jesus, may we be transformed by it, filled,
as we are, with gift and grace. Amen.**