

All (sung): Amen! Amen! Amen, amen, amen! (traditional)

Sharing Bread and Cup

*(The communion elements will be passed to you in your seat.
Please hold the elements and we will partake together.)*

Bread in Blessing shared in Christ who is the bread of life.

(above process repeated for cup)

Cup of salvation shared in Christ who is the wine of the new covenant.

Post Communion Prayer:

Gracious God, we have been nourished at this table with this sacred meal; take now our lives and use them for your purpose; take our hands and work through them; take our lips and speak through them; take our hearts and fill them with love for you and for all people that Christ's reign might be lived through us. Amen.

*** Hymn: VU # 356** Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Holy Communion – Reign of Christ's Banqueting Table



Invitation to the Table:

All are welcome to Christ's table of celebration and grace. Here Christ reigns as host, offering welcome and nourishment. All are invited, everyone has a place at this table. We are all guests of Christ.

*** Communion Hymn: VU # 469** We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

Great Thanksgiving *(based on The Song of Faith of The United Church)*

May the reign of Christ bring you grace.

And also you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the One who reigns with love and hope.

As children of Christ's realm of reconciliation and peace,

We bless the One who remembers us and redeems us to new life.

(United Church Song of Faith excerpt)

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign—

a commonwealth not of domination but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.

He healed the sick and fed the hungry.

He forgave sins and freed those held captive by all manner of demonic powers.

He crossed barriers of race, class, culture, and gender.

He preached and practised unconditional love—

love of God, love of neighbour, love of friend, love of enemy—
and he commanded his followers to love one another as he had loved them.

Sanctus: Choir: VU 932 Holy, Holy, Holy (Haugen)

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in your name!

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

Because his witness to love was threatening,
those exercising power sought to silence Jesus.

He suffered abandonment and betrayal, state-sanctioned torture
and execution. He was crucified. But death was not the last
word. God raised Jesus from death, turning sorrow into joy,
despair into hope. We sing of Jesus raised from the dead. We
sing hallelujah.

By becoming flesh in Jesus, God makes all things new.

In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering, God empowers us to
live in love. In Jesus' crucifixion, God bears the sin, grief, and
suffering of the world. In Jesus' resurrection, God overcomes
death. Nothing separates us from the love of God.

Acclamation: (MV 204)

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

The Risen Christ lives today, present to us and the source of our
hope.

In response to who Jesus was and to all he did and taught,
to his life, death, and resurrection,
and to his continuing presence with us through the Spirit,
we celebrate him as the Word made flesh,
the one in whom God and humanity are perfectly joined,
the transformation of our lives, the Christ.

We remember therefore Christ's presence at table
when he blessed and spoke words that transformed
old rituals and ordinary nourishment into signs of life in his
reign.

He took the unleavened bread, blessed it with familiar words,
and then as he broke it, he gave it new meaning,
bread of his body broken in love for his followers.

"Whenever you eat of this, remember me, until I come again."

And then he took the cup of blessing, gave thanks as was the
tradition, and then lifted it and named it a sign of a new
covenant, life poured out in love for a broken world.
Whenever you drink of this, you drink of the new covenant
poured out through my life and death.

Holy Reconciling Christ, who reigns with Creator God and Holy
Spirit One - pour out your Spirit of life upon us,
and upon the gifts of the Bread of life and the Cup of salvation.
Feed us with the bread of your abundant grace,
and make us to drink of your cup of blessing.

And when time has come to an end, and all creation has been
reconciled to you, we will gather around the feast in heaven,
singing our joy and praise to you,
God in Community, Holy in One.