

Prayer of the Community

Preface: 1 Thus says our God: "Lo, I send my messenger before me to prepare the way. Let your hearts and minds be turned to me to prepare the way for me. I am close now. Keep watch and pray, that you might know my presence, see my love, recognize the gift I give to you - my Word made Flesh, Emmanuel.

All Our God is coming to us. Let us lift our hearts with joy. Let us give praise and thanks to Sophia-God for this awesome deed, this wondrous gift beyond all our imagining, as we proclaim with all creation:

Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and light.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest!

Eucharistic Prayer:

2 Blessed are you, Sophia-God, for you have called us from of old. Blessed be you, O God, because you call us still, to watch for your coming, to prepare the way, and to wait in hope for the coming of your salvation.

All We remember Jesus - how he came to us, poor and vulnerable, a fully human person like us. We remember how he lived, and what he said. We remember how he gave himself fully for love of you, gracious God, and for us. And so, we bring these gifts and ourselves. Make our gifts of bread and self holy through the power of your Spirit, that through our sharing of this bread, we may become and be Christ's body to feed and heal our broken world.

1 We remember how, on the night before he died, Jesus gathered with those he loved for one last meal. As he did then, so he does now; he shows his great love in his word and through the breaking of the bread - the sacrament of the new covenant offered for all.

P The day before he suffered, Jesus took bread and gave you thanks and praise. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and eat it.

This is my body which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his friends and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

All So with immense hope, we remember your gift to us - the gift of Jesus, our reconciliation and our friend. And as we wait with confidence for the fulfillment of your promises, we proclaim this mystery of our faith:

Dying, you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

2 Be with us, gracious and gifting God, wherever we may be. Help us to prepare the way for you, and to recognize your presence with us. Create in us a new heart, so we may truly be your faithful people.

All Knit us together by the power of your Spirit into one community of hope and love. Form us into your "Emmanuel" - a true sign of your presence with us to heal and restore our broken world. Then...

through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, all gracious God, forever and ever. Amen.