

A Place at the Table

3149

Liturgy for the Sacrament of Holy Communion



1. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
 3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble, a -
 5. For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - ery-one born, clean wa - ter and bread, — a shel - ter, a
 vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, — with wis - dom and
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, — the hands of a
 bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give, — in an - ger, in
 live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be, — to work, to speak



space, a safe place for grow - ing, for ev - ery-one born, a
 grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for wom - an and man, a
 child in hands that are wrin - kled, for young and for old, the
 hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy, for just and un - just, a
 out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for ev - ery-one born, the

Refrain

star o - ver - head. —
 sys - tem that's fair. —
 right to be - long. — And God will de - light — when
 new way to live. —
 right to be free. —



we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy, — yes, God will de -



light — when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, —



jus - tice and joy! —

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PLACE AT THE TABLE
 11 10.11 10 with Refrain

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Invitation

Today, Christ invites all to this table. Therefore, we remember those who are not present, those who have passed away, those who are hungry and thirsty, those who planted and harvested the grapes and the grain for our feast, those behind bars, those who live in the midst of wars and persecution, those at work today, those who are ill, those who lack transportation, those we exclude from our churches, those who cannot afford to be with us for whatever reason: we remember all who God calls to this supper.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess that we have not seriously raised our voices to the injustices done against us and against the least of these, the broken and the forgotten, and those who cannot speak for themselves. Forgive us.

THE 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 the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God, lover of the unlovable, we give you thanks. In the fullness of time, Christ our liberator, redeemer, and sustainer came to live and be with the least of us. You, in whose Word darkness was shattered, in whose breath dust became being, and in whose love, bondage became liberty. We approach your table unworthy even of the crumbs that fall beneath it, broken as we are, we draw nearer in faith.

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

In Jesus, you touched the untouchable, confronting the powerful. The lonely, the sick, the disabled, the widows, the orphans: these were never far from him. We give you thanks that in the same way all are invited to this table, regardless of their background, to receive your healing. Those whom society deems unworthy, those without daily bread, those exploited without heed for their humanity, and those on the very edge, the periphery, of our society.

As we lift this bread, asking you to consecrate it, bless our land to flow with milk and honey: plentiful harvest for all. As we break it, break the chains of the oppressed. As it is shared among us, may we embrace each other's burdens in solidarity and love.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*"

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "*Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

As we lift this cup, we remember that our people are crushed but they are not destroyed. In this crushing, bring forth new wine representative of your blood: cleansing and bringing life of acceptance and abundance. As we share it, may we be reminded that we are a family of hope connected by cords that cannot be broken.

As we remember your grace offered in Jesus, we offer ourselves to you in praise and gratitude, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ died; Christ rose again; Christ will return.

Breathe upon these gifts now again, O God, your breath of life so we may remember again how to live. May we be reminded we are redeemed by Christ's blood.

Breathe on us and make us one, with Christ, with each other, and one in ministry to the world, until Christ returns, and in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

The United Methodist Church believes that Holy Communion is a gift of God's unmerited grace for all people. Therefore, all are invited to share in this Holy Meal. It doesn't matter if you are a member of this church or not, if you are Methodist or not, if you are Christian or not. No matter your age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, preferred language, or where you find yourself on this journey of life and faith; you are welcome to share in this Holy Meal.

We commune using Holy Communion kits, which contain both a wafer and cup of juice. There is also a gluten-free option with a separate wafer and grape juice cup. Feel free to pick one up there. If you do not have one yet, there are kits available near the ushers' station by the main entrance of the sanctuary.

Liturgy adapted from "Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World" by Cláudio Carvalhaes.