

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Our Lord, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, to be celebrated until he comes again. We come to this table by faith, knowing that we can do nothing to deserve to be at Jesus' table. We are here by HIS grace and love, confident that in his presence we can find mercy. So, let's pray together asking for God's forgiveness.

All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, creator of all things, judge of all peoples: We acknowledge and regret our sins which from time to time we have committed, by thought, word and action, against Your divine majesty. We sincerely repent and regret our failings. Have mercy on us, beloved Father. For the sake of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us and grant that, partaking of Your table, we may find strength to serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: The Psalmist teaches that our God is good and forgiving; abounding in steadfast love for all who call upon God. Take heart! You are forgiven! I am forgiven! We are forgiven!

At his last supper, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper He took the cup, gave thanks and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, given for the forgiveness of sins; do this, as often as you drink, in remembrance of me." Let's pray:

Dear Lord, we thank you for your mercy, love, and forgiveness, and for your sacrifice made for us by eternal love. We ask you to please pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

All: By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes again. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor: Dear siblings, the table is set, and Jesus invites us to participate by faith, and with love, remembering that the sacrifice on the Cross is a reminder that we are called to continue His ministry on earth until He comes again.

All (after communion): God of new life, with joy we have received this sacrament of bread and wine, giving you thanks for Jesus Christ, our peace, and our hope. Unite your church throughout the world in continuing Christ's ministry of love and servanthood, that your name may be praised in all the earth. Amen.





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