

The Sacrament of Holy Communion for Epiphany

Leader: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our loved failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with all your people on earth and all the company of heaven who have gone before us we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Sung Response) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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.

Leader: Holy are you and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

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.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

(Sung Response) Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. 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.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name as we follow the Light of the World.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

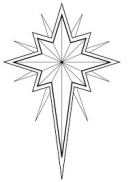
Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Receiving the Elements

Prayer after Receiving (unison) Most bountiful God, we give you thanks for the world you have created, for the gift of life, and for giving yourself to us in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. We thank you that, in the power of your Holy Spirit, you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. We are your Epiphany children, and yours is the glory, now and for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## *An Epiphany Prayer*



*Pastor: Almighty God, we are drawn to you in worship on this holy day, your creation facing its creator, hearts laid bare by your light, humbly asking for your mercy.*

**PEOPLE:** We come to you as a people in need of assurance and forgiveness; we come to you as a people in need of healing and wholeness. We come dependent upon your love.

*Pastor: Holy God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Savior was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door.*

*May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us in the new year ahead. Draw us close and enfold us in your arms, we pray, O God. Fill us with your Spirit that we might reflect your light, speak your Word with boldness, and draw others to you.*

**PEOPLE:** Bless us, we pray, that we might be the means through which others can encounter the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer