

# *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

## Words of Instruction

### Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn: Angels we have heard on High VU 38(vs 1)

**Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.**

**[Refrain:]**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

*(elements uncovered)*

## Gathering

Glory to God in the highest!

**And on earth, peace to all!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is good to give thanks and praise.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, God of majesty and mystery. From the dawn of creation to the fullness of time you seek us out. We thank you that you find us in your Word made flesh, Emmanuel. We praise you for your revelation in stable warmth and birthing cry, in humility and in power. We bless you for this Good News of great joy, and join with angels singing and shepherds rejoicing to proclaim your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest,**

**blessed is the One who comes in God's name.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## Remembering the Meal

In the midst of celebrating Christ's birth, we remember why he came to this world. On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

O God, Redeemer of all things, with grateful thanks we offer this bread and this cup, fruits of your earth and of our labour, signs of your loving purpose for our lives and for all your creation. In this life we are afforded so much that we are thankful for. At this time let us offer our gifts to God that all might share the gift of our abundance. To do this we go to the world proclaiming the mystery of our faith to all we meet saying together:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

### **Blessing of the Bread and the Cup**

Christ enters our lives once again this night and calls us to continue his healing mission. Send your Spirit upon these gifts, O God, and hear us as we boldly proclaim the truth of our faith:

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours,  
God most holy, now and forever.

And now, as daughters and sons whom you have reconciled to yourself, we pray together the words Christ taught us saying:

**Our Father who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil  
for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory  
forever and ever. AMEN**

### **Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**

The body of Christ, bread for a journey newly begun.

The cup of the covenant, renewed at the birth of each new day.

### **Sharing of the Bread and the Cup**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Come now for all has been made ready.

### **Gift of Music**

*sharing the meal*

**After Communion:** Angels we have heard on High

VU 38(vs 3)

**Come to Bethlehem and see**

**Christ whose birth the angels sing;**

come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

[Refrain:]

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*(remaining elements covered)*

**Prayer after Communion (Unison)**

Prince of Peace, Child of Promise, Emmanuel, Jesus. Over the years we have come to know you by many names. Over the years we have come to know the many ways in which you enter our lives. As you filled the night sky with the light of your coming, so fill our lives as you are born anew in us. May we carry the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that has grown among us this season and share them with the world as we go from this place proclaiming the Good News of our brother Jesus Christ. AMEN