

Called to Gather as God's People

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Called to Gather as God's People* Carl Daw
Sung to the tune *Nettleton*

*Called to gather as God's people, We assemble in this place
To unite our hearts and voices In thanksgiving for God's grace:
For the birthing of creation, For Christ's rising from death's hold,
For the coming of the Spirit, Week by week claimed and retold*

*Taught and formed by proclamation, We await God's promised word:
Song and story, psalm and precept, All the range of scripture heard.
By this ancient, living witness We are summoned to confess
How we fall short, yet can trust that God will hear, forgive, and bless.*

*Fed at Christ's abundant table, We partake of holy food,
Wake the gifts of hope and mem'ry, Taste and see that God is good.
So our mingled lives are taken, Blessed and broken for Christ's sake,
Given out to feed and comfort Bodies, minds, and hearts that ache*

*Sent to share the Spirit's blessing, We go forth renewed, restored,
Humbled by the task before us, Strengthened by the Love outpoured.
Finding faith confirmed in action, Led by hope through each new day,
We are called to be God's people, Living what we sing and pray.*

*OPENING PRAYER

Taught and Formed by Proclamation

READING FROM THE PROPHETS Ezekiel 47:1-2, 6-12

MUSICAL RESPONSE *A Healing Stream* Phifer

*READING FROM THE GOSPEL Matthew 26:26-27

*READING FROM THE EPISTLES James 5:13-15

*MUSICAL RESPONSE *A Healing Stream* Phifer

Fed at Christ's Abundant Table

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Come to the Lord's Table, all you who love him.
Come to the Lord's Table, confess your sin.
Come to the Lord's Table, be at peace.

LITANY OF CONFESSION

We have not believed you or trusted in your power.
Lord, help our unbelief.

We have stained our souls by our action and inaction.
Cleanse us, Lord.

We are broken by disease, bruised by the sins of others, weakened and unable to repair ourselves.
Heal us, Lord.

We ignore your call to center ourselves in you, and so are deaf to the hopes and cries of the poor, the sick, the needy, and the earth.
Ground us, Lord!

When we confess our sinful ways, God abundantly pardons.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Glory to God!

By one Spirit we are all baptized into the one body.
**Let us then pursue the things that make for peace
and build up our common life.**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you!
And also with you.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is always right to give God thanks and praise.

It is always right, good, and proper that we should give you thanks and praise,
O gracious Father.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit whom you sent through your Son
to bring to our remembrance all that he said and did,
and who enables us to love and serve with this same Spirit.
Therefore, with angels and all the host of heaven
we praise your name saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory;
Hosanna to the Lord most high,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Gracious God, we thank you for your desire to create us
and have friendship with others other than yourself.
How glad it makes us to be in your image and after your likeness.
How freeing it is to see others in the same way:
made of the same clay by one and the same potter.

How majestic is your work in all the earth

For place, a garden; for food, plants and animals; for companions,
Adam for Eve, Eve for Adam. Every need supplied –

Praised be your name in all the earth.

We sinned, violated trust, presumed on good will,
exploited the abundance of creation, and took advantage of others.
We lost our place, displaced our companions, and misplaced our commitments.
Needs unknown at creation were generated.

How stressful it is when life is out of place. Have mercy on us.

But when we had lost our place, misplaced our trust, and displaced others,
you sent your Son to take his place beside us.
He crossed cultures - from heaven to earth, eternity to time -
and lived on our turf, learning to be a son.
Speaking our language, he was apprenticed to a carpenter, and befriended any
who needed him; eventually, he was crucified in our place.

**All made from the same clay, we are redeemed by the same cross.
How majestic is your grace in all the earth.**

And so, dear God, you have called us to take our places beside others,
to cross cultures to their turf, to learn to live there,
for that place and those people,
to leave home and make a new home as your Son did for us.

Spirit of God, give us grace to do so.

And now with great thanksgiving we recall the first apostle, the Sent-One,
Jesus Christ, who on the night he was betrayed took bread,
and when he had given thanks he broke it and said,
“This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”
In the same way also he took the cup after supper, saying:
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”
For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

Holy God, Holy and merciful one
Holy and compassionate,
with this bread and cup we remember your Son
the first-born of your new creation,

We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection,
which renewed the face of the earth.

We await his coming

**when, with the world perfected through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.**

Come, Lord Jesus.

Send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life,
whose fire rouses us to love.

Enfold in your arms all who share this meal.

**Nurture us in the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree,
sharing your bounty with all the world.**

Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*We invite all worshipers to come the leading of the Holy Spirit
to receive Holy Communion by intinction.*

*If you desire to be anointed with oil and have someone pray with prayer for
healing,*

we invite you to come to the altar for anointing and prayer.

*While others receive communion or anointing,
we invite you to join in singing the songs printed on the insert.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sent to Share the Spirit's Blessing

RESPONSIVE READING

Revelation 22:1-5

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal,
flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
down the middle of the great street of the city.

**On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit,
yielding its fruit every month.**

And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb
will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

There will be no more night.

They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun,
for the Lord God will give them light.

And they will reign for ever and ever.

HYMN

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Samuel Stennet

*On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie.*

Refrain

*I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land;
Oh who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.*

*O'er all those wide extended plains Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.*

Refrain

*No chilling winds or poisonous breath Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness and sorrow, pain and death, Are felt and feared no more.*

Refrain

*When I shall reach that happy place, I'll be forever blest,
For I shall see my Father's face, And in His bosom rest.*

BENEDICTION