

# A SERVICE OF THE TABLE III

## HOLY COMMUNION (*FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH*)

Use the following liturgy if, for the portion of today's worship service dedicated to the Service of the Table (Holy Communion), the bulletin says **UMH 15**.

(if the bulletin says **UMH 7, 12, or 17**;  
choose Service of the Table **I, II, or Musical Setting A** respectively)

### ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion. It does not matter your beliefs, disbeliefs, or unbeliefs, your affiliations or associations. It is the Lord's Table. Not ours. We do not set the guest list.

(The following liturgy will begin after today's sermon.)

Pastor: words in light print (M)      People's response: words in bold print (P)  
*[Directions are in red]*

## TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

*[The pastor takes the bread and cup and prepares them for the meal.]*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

M: The Lord be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

M: Lift up your hearts!

**P: We lift them up to the Lord!**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

*The Sursum corda,  
or opening dialogue.*

*This greeting is between the pastor and the people and invites each of us to join in the giving of thanks, just as we might give thanks over an ordinary meal at home.*

\*M: It is right, and a good, and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*\*This begins the prayer, and the rest of The Great Thanksgiving is directed to God.*

*Here, the first part of salvation history is retold.*

*(The Hebrew Bible or  
The 'Old' Testament)*

*We recount God's work throughout history, beginning with the Creation of the universe and leading up to the time of Christ. Our sinning and God's love are emphasized.*

*[Here, the pastor may add words appropriate  
To the day, season, or occasion,  
remembering God's acts of salvation.]*

M: And so,  
with Your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: "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!"**

*\*This refers to Christ*

*Revelation 4:8  
The Sanctus      Isaiah 6:3  
Last 3 lines based on  
Jesus' entry into Jerusalem  
on a donkey, as shouted  
by the crowds.*

*[More words may be added here by the pastor,  
continuing the thanksgiving.]*

*Here, the second part of  
salvation history  
is retold.*

*(The New Testament)*

*The works and Good  
News of Jesus Christ and  
the creation of the Church  
is recalled.*

*Jesus' new covenant  
with us is emphasized.*

*[More words may be added here by the pastor;  
the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.]*

*Institution Narrative.*

*The story of Jesus' eating  
with His disciples.*

*This one is taken from  
1 Corinthians 11:23-25  
and recalls*

*'the Last Supper'  
(the last meal Jesus had  
before He died on the  
cross).*

And so,  
in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves [back] 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:

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*Memorial Acclamation*

*[Here, the pastor invokes the present work  
of God's Spirit and then praises the Holy Trinity.]*

All honor and glory is Yours, Almighty God,  
now and forever.

**ALL: AMEN!**

*The epiclesis;  
calling on the power of God's Spirit  
to bless the gathered people  
and the bread and cup.*

*\*although we may retain the word  
'wine' we use nonalcoholic,  
unfermented grape juice.*

*A doxology;  
a praise to the Holy Trinity:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

*[Traditional version]*

**ALL:**

**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  
and the power  
and the glory forever.  
AMEN!**

*[This version is used by Pastor Caleb]*

**ALL:**

**Our \*Abba, in heaven,  
holy is Your name!  
Your kin-dom come!  
Your will be done  
on earth as in heaven!  
Give us today our daily bread!  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us!  
Let us not fall into temptation  
and deliver us from evil!  
For Yours are the kin-dom,  
and the power,  
and the glory forever and ever!  
AMEN!**

*\*Alternate: 'Parent' (inclusive) or  
'Father & Mother' (expansive)*

## BREAKING THE BREAD

*[The pastor breaks the bread in silence, or while saying:     ]*

M: Because there is one loaf,  
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.  
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

*[The pastor lifts the cup in silence, or while saying:     ]*

M: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

## GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*[The bread and wine are given to the people,  
with these or other words being exchanged:     ]*

M: The body of Christ, given for you. **P: AMEN!**

M: The blood of Christ, given for you. **P: AMEN!**

*[When all have received, the Lord's Table is put back in order.]*

OPTIONAL

**THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*[The following prayer is then offered by the pastor or by all: ]*

**ALL: Eternal God, we give You thanks for this holy mystery  
in which You have given Yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of Your Spirit,  
to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord:**

**AMEN!**

*(the worship service continues with Announcements / God-Sightings /  
A Call to Discipleship / A Hymn of Mission / Dismissal & Blessing)  
(please refer again to your bulletin)*