

ADVENT OF PEACE



COMMUNION LITURGY

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful – these you deserve. For when we were nothing, you made us something. When we had no name and no faith and no future, you called us your children. When we lost our way or turned away, you did not abandon us. When we came back to you, your arms opened wide in welcome. And look, you prepare a table for us offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed and made new again. You are worth all our pain and all our praise. So now in gratitude, we join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven.

Sanctus #100 “Canticle of the Turning” v. 1

Star of the County Down

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not
spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to
turn? My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

Lord God, as we come to share the richness of your table, we cannot forget the rawness of the earth. We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry. Your world is one world and we are stewards of its nourishment.

Lord, put our prosperity at the service of the poor.

We cannot take wine and forget those who are thirsty. The ground and the rootless, the earth and its weary people cry out for justice.

Lord, put our fullness at the service of the empty.

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget the world at war, all those fleeing violence and oppression, and the global threat of terrorism.

Show us quickly, Lord, how to turn weapons into welcome signs and the lust for power into a desire for peace.

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget our divisions. We are one in spirit, but not in fact. History and hurt still dismember us.

Lord, heal your church in every brokenness.

We cannot look to you as King, and forget the discord and partisanship in our nation.

Lord, give our leaders the wisdom to listen and the courage to work together.

We pray for those who are ailing in body, mind, or spirit...

We prayer for those who grieve...

So as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become for us your body, healing, forgiving, and making us whole. And that we may become for you, your body, loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes. Until that day, we pray as you 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, broke it and said, “This is my body, broken for you. Do this remembering me.” And later he took the cup and said, “This is the new relationship with God, made possible because of my death. Take this – all of you – to remember me.” Look, here is your Lord coming to you in bread and cup. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion of the People

***Communion Hymn #507 “Come to the Table of Grace”** *Table of Grace*

1. Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.

This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

2. Come to the table of peace...

3. Come to the table of hope....

4. Come to the table of joy...

5. Come to the table of love...

Prayer After Communion

**Emmanuel, God with us, you have put your life into our hands.
Now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us.
What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still
awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

Pastoral Team

Rev. Karen Ware Jackson, Pastor
Rev. Jim Rissmiller, Pastoral Team
Stephanie Lindley, Music Director
Beverly Lucas, Office Administrator