

~ SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER ~

Today is a day to especially remember our unity in Jesus Christ, who taught us, “Do this in remembrance of me.” (1 Corinthians 11:23-35)

Christ invites us: “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink.” (John 7:37-38)

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, our Creator. You have given us life and second birth in your Spirit. Once we were no people, but now we are your people. You claimed Israel as your chosen nation and raised up the church as a witness to the resurrection, breathing into it your life and power. From worlds apart, you gathered us together. When we go astray, you welcome us home. Always, your love has been steadfast.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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.

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER - MALOTTE

HEATHER CARTER - SOLO

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

8-16-26

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Deacon's Fund

Faith has a fund designated for use by the Deacons. In addition to "designated" offerings directed to the Deacon's fund, the loose offering (coins and dollar bills) on Communion Sunday goes to the Deacon's fund. Offerings in an envelope or marked for general or other designation will be credited as such. The Deacons are planning to consider local needs for quarterly distribution of the Deacon's fund.

Sacraments: Lord's Supper

F.A.Qs (Extracted from <https://pcusa.org/sacraments-lords-supper-faqs>)

Is it an altar or a table?

The Presbyterian/Reformed understanding of the Lord's Supper is one of thanksgiving and remembrance for the self-offering of Jesus Christ once and for all time on a cross in Jerusalem. Christ's perfect sacrifice of love and service is not re-enacted or reactualized at the Lord's Supper; rather, in the joyful feast of eucharistic celebration, we offer our praise and thanksgiving to God for this amazing gift. Furthermore, the sacrament Christ instituted for his remembrance takes the form of a simple meal — a sharing of bread and wine. Therefore, it is Presbyterian practice to refer to the Lord's table rather than an altar.

To be sure, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection is an integral part of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This is one of several theological themes implicit in the eucharistic meal. Others include thanksgiving to God for the gifts and goodness of creation, prayer for the fruitful reception of the sacrament through the Holy Spirit, the communion of the faithful in the presence of Christ, and the anticipation or foretaste of the heavenly banquet in the kingdom of God.

Is it the Lord's Supper, Eucharist, or Holy Communion?

These terms may be appropriately applied to the church's ancient sharing of bread and wine. However, each term highlights a different facet of the feast's meaning.

The Lord's Supper, particularly prominent in Presbyterian/Reformed tradition, emphasizes Christ's institution of the sacrament, and connects the meal with its celebration on the Lord's Day (Sunday). Eucharist, from a Greek word meaning "to give thanks," emphasizes the essential nature of the sacrament as an offering of thanksgiving for the gift of God's grace in Jesus Christ; this term tends to have more currency in ecumenical and Roman Catholic discussion.

Holy Communion originally referred to a specific part of the eucharistic liturgy — the sharing of bread and wine — and a particular aspect of its theological meaning — the fellowship of the Body of Christ; over time and in some circles, however, this term has come to stand in for the sacrament as a whole.

What is the Great Thanksgiving?

The Great Thanksgiving (or Eucharistic Prayer) is the prayer over which the minister of Word and Sacrament presides at the celebration of the Lord's Supper. This tradition of prayer has been passed down (with variations) through centuries of Christian worship; its origins are thought to be in the third century.

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