

*The Celebrant continues*

How wonderful are your works, O God! Through countless generations your people hungered for the bread of freedom, and you raised up Jesus, the living bread, in whom ancient hungers were satisfied. He healed the sick, embraced the outcast, and shared our human life.

As a mother gathers her children, you welcomed all people as your own, and filled them with longing for the fullness of peace and justice, for your shalom.

On the cross, Jesus opened wide his arms and surrendered his spirit. Now by the power of the Holy Spirit, sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become the body and blood of Christ. Sanctify us also that we may show forth Christ in the world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon it and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread and praised you, God of all creation. He broke the bread among his companions and said: "Take and eat: This is my body which will be given up for you."

When supper was ended, he poured a final cup of wine and blessed you, God of all creation. He passed the cup among his companions and said: “Take and drink: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.”

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and people.*

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues.*

Loving God, as we offer you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we remember Jesus, your only begotten One. As we are fed with Christ’s body and blood, may we grow in holiness of life and in the peace that passes understanding. And may Christ find us faithful in the breaking of the bread, strong in love, and ever-watchful in prayer.

Now, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit, your whole church offers thanks and praise with all those who bring hope to this world. And when all divisions shall be healed, your praise shall resound through all creation to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*