



## ADVENT COMMUNION

Pastor: *Friends of God, we are invited to HIS table.*

*Let us take a moment of silent confession.*

*Words of Assurance: The Savior says: I love you; I forgive you; I restore you to new life.*

**All: We will not ignore the fact that God comes: not to condemn, but to comfort us; not to scold, but to speak tenderly to us of hope, of peace, of love, of joy. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Unison Prayer

**While we are waiting in this Advent season, may we proclaim good news to those who need it most, so that justice may come into the places of oppression, so righteousness might kiss the wounds of the most vulnerable, so hope and peace might meet in all the broken places of our world and begin to build new communities of reconciliation living your word. Hear our prayer, Amen.**

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Pastor: May the God of comfort be with you.*

**People: And may God comfort you.**

*Pastor: Bring your hearts to the One who comes:*

**People: We would open them to God, who brings healing and hope.**

*Pastor: Give thanks to the Living God, all you people.*

**People: We praise the One who offers peace to us.**

*Pastor: Acclamation, thanksgiving, songs of joy are the gifts we offer to you, God of all the ages. You uttered the Word and mountains burst forth; your Breath blew upon the waters and stirred life into being; you reached down and shaped us in your own image, from the dusty paths you trod. In our impatience, we refused to wait for your glory, and rushed into sin's sweet embrace. Yet you were willing to **outwit** our foolish wisdom, and **outwait** our childish tantrums, sending the prophets to cry out of your desire for us to return to you. Finally, when we continued to cling to death's strong hand, you clothed your Word with human flesh, that we might meet you face to face. So with those who have waited for you in every time and place, with those who seek to live faithfully for you in these days, we lift our song of hope to you:*

**All: Holy, holy, holy are you, Comfort of every age.**

**Creation speaks tenderly of your love.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who builds the highway to your heart.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*Pastor: All holiness is yours, Righteous God, and blessed is your Word for whom we wait, Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace.*

*When we had lost our way, he came to straighten out the path to you.*

*When we wept at our lost ways, he came to comfort us.*

*When we had fallen hopelessly at the feet of death, he gathered us up in his arms to carry us home to you.*

*As we come to this Table, we remember the mystery of the One who died that we might live forever.*

**All: Christ died, the flower of hope fading**

**Christ was raised, so death and sin would be made low;**

**Christ will come, crying: "Here is your God!"**

*Pastor: As your Spirit moves upon these gifts of the bread and the cup, may your blessing touch us with unexpected hope and the power of patience. As we wait for Christ's return, we would fill the empty dreams of the world with your vision of peace and wholeness; we would feed the lost with the bread of hope; we would gently lead the exiled back to your Kingdom. Then, when the end of time comes, and our waiting is over, we will gather around your Table in the new heaven and new earth, where righteousness is our friend and justice lives next door, and we will praise you forever and ever, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.*

**Words of Institution – Pastor- On that night on which...**

**+Congregation Receives the Gift of Bread and Cup+**

**Sending Forth From the Table**

*Pastor: Our God is here!*

**All: Sending us out to smooth the way of those broken by life.**

*Pastor: Jesus our Savior is here!*

**All: Taking us by the hand to lead us to bring justice to our communities.**

*Pastor: The Holy Spirit is here!*

**All: Giving us the words of healing and hope to speak in the days to come.**

*Pastor: Now go out there into the world.*

**All: We will go, trusting that God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit wait to show us where to bring comfort, peace, and love to those who need these gifts.**