



AN ORDER FOR

THE CELEBRATION OF

# ***THE HOLY EUCHARIST***

FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 2025



WITHIN THE EPISCOPAL

***DIOCESE OF MISSOURI***



WELCOME! BIENVENIDOS! KARIBU!

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Scattered in the world we gather together as God's people in worship. We bring the fragments of our lives to be healed and made whole in Christ as we gather in community.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as God's people. One of the glories of the Episcopal/Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

As we gather, we bring our diverse gifts: gifts of music, dance, prophecy, teaching, preaching, and friendship. We present these gifts in the form of our most precious offering to God, our very selves, that all that we do may be for God's glory in the unity of Christ's church.

### ABOUT THE SEASON OF LENT

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Early Christians observed "a season of penitence and fasting" in preparation for the Paschal feast, or Pascha (Easter). The season now known as Lent, from an Old English word meaning "spring," the time of lengthening days, has a long history. Lent was especially important for converts to the faith who were preparing for baptism, and for those guilty of notorious sins who were being restored to the Christian assembly.

In the western church, the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. The last three days of Lent are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Today, Lent has reacquired its significance as the final preparation of adult candidates for baptism. Joining with them, all Christians are invited "to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word."

### ABOUT THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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*"When God finds us, there is always a celebration. In the Eucharist, we gather to celebrate God finding us in Jesus Christ. If you're feeling lost, when you come to receive Jesus in bread and wine, ask to be found. If you know what it is to have been found by God, when you come to receive Jesus in bread and wine, give thanks – thanks to the one who came looking for you, and found you."*

-Br. Geoffrey Tristram

Society of Saint John the Evangelist

In the Episcopal Church the Holy Eucharist is the sacrament of Christ's body and blood, and the principal act of Christian worship. The term is from the Greek, "thanksgiving." Jesus instituted the Eucharist "on the night when he was betrayed." At the Last Supper he shared the Bread and cup of Wine at a sacred meal with his disciples. He identified the Bread with his body and the Wine with his blood of the new covenant. Jesus commanded his disciples to "do this" in remembrance of Jesus.

For Episcopalians, the Holy Eucharist becomes the very Real Presence of Christ, his Body and Blood, the ordinary made also extraordinary, sacred by Jesus' own words and by the Holy Spirit.

In the Episcopal Church, we seek to adapt ancient liturgy for today. If you grew up in a less formal church, worship may feel pretty traditional. If you grew up in a formal church, our worship may deconstruct that formality, and ask you to pray using more modern words, or sing new songs. We seek to balance tradition and culture in our worship. When we hold the tension well between the ancient and the modern, the Holy Eucharist comes alive.

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson

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*We begin by praising God through song, silence, and prayer.*

10:00 AM THE GATHERING HYMN

All my hope on God is founded

Hymnal, #665

## THE PENITENTIAL RITE

*We are invited to share the breath of the Spirit as we prepare ourselves for worship.*

*Presider* Blessed be the God of our salvation.

*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sin.**

*Presider* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." - Mark 12:29-31

## THE CONFESSION

*As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.*

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept for a time.*

*Presider* Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

*People* **We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.**

*Presider* Our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

*People* **We confess to you, O God.**

*Presider* Our self-indulgence, and our exploitation of other people, our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

*People* **We confess to you, O God.**

*Presider* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

*People* **Accept our repentance, O God.**

*Presider* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

*People*      **Accept our repentance, O God.**

*Presider*    Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

*People*      **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

## DECLARATION OF PARDON & FORGIVENESS

*The Presider prays the declaration of forgiveness, and the people respond Amen.*

*Presider*    May the Eternal God forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

## SONG OF PENANCE: KYRIE *(spoken)*

*Presider*    Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People*      **Lord, have mercy.**

*Presider*    Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me: Christ,  
have mercy.

*People*      **Christ, have mercy.**

*Presider*    Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me:  
Lord, have mercy.

*People*      **Lord, have mercy.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*The collect is written to go along with both the season of the church year and the readings for the day. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scripture for the day.*

*Presider*    The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Presider*    Let us pray.

BCP, pg. 218

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

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*We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors. Reading and commenting on scripture goes back to the earliest services of Christianity. Following the pattern of Jewish synagogue worship, readings follow a set pattern for what will be read when.*

## THE FIRST READING

### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS**

3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you!'

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.”

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM OF THE DAY

*The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people. They express joy and sadness, loneliness and thanksgiving as part of the human longing to be united with God.*

### **PSALM 63:1-8**

*Deus, Deus meus*

BCP, pg. 670-1

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

## THE SECOND READING

**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS**

10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.

Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOSPEL

*We rise in body or in spirit for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:1-9

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I



dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Meg Goldstein

*We remain seated for the sermon. Having someone comment on the scriptures read goes back to the earliest days of Christianity and to the Jewish Synagogue worship which preceded it*

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Presider leads the assembly in an affirmation of faith. Originally the entire service was viewed as our confession of faith. But, since the Sixth Century, the Church has recited either the Nicene Creed or the Apostle's Creed at the Eucharist. The word creed comes from the Latin credo for "I believe" or "I lend my heart to." Creeds tell a deeper "truth" that goes beyond "facts."*

## THE NICENE CREED

*Presider* Please rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God, by saying together the Nicene Creed.

***We believe in one God,***

***the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,***

***the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.***

***Through him all things were made.***

***For us and for our salvation***

***he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;***

***he suffered death and was buried.***



**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*In our prayers, we collectively and individually offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God.*

**Leader** We pray to the Eternal One for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves in service to Christ.

*Silence is kept for a time.*

**Leader** Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Deon, our Bishop; Lu-Anne, our Priest; Meg, our Assistant Priest; and all members of the clergy. May the wounds of Jesus bring forgiveness to your people and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation. Lord, meet us in the silence;

**People** **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

**Leader** Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. We pray for those in authority in all nations of the world. May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world. Lord, meet us in the silence,

**People** **Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighborhoods and communities. May the presence of the risen Jesus, his body once broken and now made whole, bring peace and direction as we live with one another. Lord, meet us in the silence,

*People* ***Give us strength and hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms. Lord, meet us in the silence,

*People* ***Give us strength and hear our prayer.***

*Leader* Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who have died in faith. May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony, and walk with us and all your Church through death to the gate of glory. Lord, meet us in the silence,

*People* ***Give us strength and hear our prayer, both now and for eternity.  
Amen.***

*Leader* In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those whom we serve at Highlander Laundromat this week and those who serve them through Laundry Love. May this ministry of being present and offering laundry supplies and quarters be a blessing of love and compassion to our neighbors.

We pray for all who will be served by Trinity Central West End's Foot Ministry on the Wednesday of Holy Week. We pray for all at Transfiguration Church who will be collecting socks, towels, and foot care items; and for the people of St. Peter's Church who will be collecting shoes to give to those in need. We give thanks for the opportunity to join in this Holy Week ministry of foot washing, and pray that it may be a blessing to our neighbors.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and ministry of Christ Episcopal Church in Cape Girardeau and for Ryan, their Priest-in-Charge.

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for St. Joseph of Arimathea in Añasco.

We pray for those on our prayer list: **Karen, Joey, John, Maureen, Alice, Kyle, Kathy, Ray, Kensie, Janet, Karen, Fred, Becky, Lorna, Steve, Emily, Peggy, Charlene, Laura, Barb, Bill, Papa, Lisa, Molly, Carolyn, Kaitlyn, Ashley, Virginia, Mindy, Sherry, Kathleen, Regina, Sarah, Lisa, Brad, Patrick Elizabeth, Keith, Roma, William, Steve, Mary, Dani, Barry, Jerry, Mari, Ron, Sandra, Toni, Lisa, Megan & John, Ryan, and John.**

Are there others?

*after a moment of silence, the Leader continues:*

We give thanks for birthdays: Ken Dobert and Mark Schuster; and anniversaries: David & Jackie Goen.

*Concluding prayer led by the Presider:*

Lord Jesus, it was your will that your Father's House would be a place of prayer for all people; grant us the strength and wisdom to be a people consumed with prayer and zeal for you, this day and always. **Amen.**

## THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*As we enter the most sacred portion of our worship, we exchange a sign of God's promised peace. There are no set words to use in greeting each other, but "Peace be with you," "God's peace," and "Shalom" are all commonly used.*

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

*We are a community of reconciliation and peace;  
therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.*

## BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

*Having been nourished from the richness of God's love in sacred story  
and reconciled to each other through prayer and peace,  
we gather at Christ's table to offer ourselves to be transformed for service in the world.*

## THE OFFERTORY

10:00 AM THE OFFERTORY HYMN

As the deer pants for the water

Renew, #9

*Once the Holy Table or Altar is prepared, the Presider and people give thanks to God for the many gifts we have been given.*

*Presider* All things come of thee, O Lord

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The Eucharistic Prayer, or Great Thanksgiving, is the prayer of the Church to invite Christ to be present in the elements of bread and wine. Now we come to the second act in the drama with the Liturgy of the Table. It is based on Jewish Fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance. But this second half of the service is not communion in and of itself. It is the whole service, both acts of the drama, that make up the Eucharist.*

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER FOR LENT

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds.*

*Presider* Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the forty years of your people's desert wanderings you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus' temptation of forty days a theater of truth where your Word stood strong.

In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wandering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise and the life of covenant.

And so we give you humble thanks for your forgiveness and our new life, with angels and archangels and the company of heaven, singing your unending praise.

*Presider and People*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*Presider*

Enduring God, as you sustained Jesus in hunger and thirst, through this meal strengthen us to keep our Lenten fast. Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we remember Jesus' saving passion; transform our insatiable desires into hunger for the feast of this table. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ;

Who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*Presider*

Great is the mystery of faith:

*People*

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

*Presider*

Forgiving God, in this season of repentance, make your mercy sufficient for every need. Come to your children who are in their own wilderness and make their wanderings holy paths of learning your truth. Strengthen all who face the threshold of temptation or the tumult of trial. Seek those whose hearts are contrite and meet them with grace.

Come alongside your children who suffer under the sin of another and give them the power to live as your beloved sons and daughters. Renew your church from the depths of your heart, where justice and mercy meet. Bring us, with all your saints to the day when all who watch and pray for your kingdom behold your salvation and meet you in your resurrection.

Infuse your church with Spirit and truth, walk with your beloved people as they seek security, companionship and freedom in your world, and fill your saints with the hope of eternal life, that all may come to praise your name,

and every grain of sand and star in the sky be stirred with the wonders of your grace.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (TRADITIONAL)

*The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection. In the Lord's Prayer we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the bread also symbolizes God's presence.*

*Presider* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray.

***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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Presider breaks the consecrated bread in view of the assembly.*

*Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

*Presider* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* ***Have mercy upon us.***

*Presider* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* ***Have mercy upon us.***

*Presider* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* ***Grant us your peace***

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*We partake in the Eucharist and are spiritually nourished, but it is not for our benefit alone. Communion enables us to return to the world with renewed vigor for proclaiming the Gospel in our words and in our lives. In the Eucharist, Christ's presence both nourishes us and challenges us.*

*Presider* The gifts of God for the people of God. *Then may be added:* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## SHARING THE SACRED MEAL

*This is Christ's table; all are welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Eucharist, or a blessing if preferred. Please note that you may drink directly from the chalice – we do not allow self-intinction. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice you may simply return to your seat after receiving the bread. Please wait for the Usher to release the section where you are seated.*

10:00 a.m. **PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** *(while those present are coming forward to receive the bread, a leader addresses those who are watching the livestream feed)*

*Leader:* The Resurrected Christ has gathered us to feast at the Table of Remembrance, yet circumstances make it difficult for some to gather physically around Christ's altar and receive Christ's eucharistic body. Wherever you are, you are offered God's grace by spiritually receiving Christ in your heart.

Please pray with me *(prayed by those who are watching the livestream feed)*

In union, O Lord,

with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.

I present to you my soul and body

with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.

And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul.

Let nothing ever separate you from me.

May I live in you, and may you live in me,

both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*The Presider invites the congregation to rise in body or in spirit, saying:*

*Presider* God is with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Together, let us pray.



**Eternal God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live lives grounded in service to you  
and to one another;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE LENTEN PRAYERS OVER THE PEOPLE

*The Presider prays over the people as a reminder of God's extravagant love  
and invites us to go into the world to be God's blessing.*

*Presider* Let us bow our hearts before the Lord our God.

*The Presider offers the prayer over the people.*

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

110:00 AM THE SENDING HYMN

*There is a balm in Gilead*

Hymnal, # 676

*We end our time of worship by praising God through song and prayer.*

## DISMISSAL

*As the celebration ends, we are charged to "Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord."  
The Eucharist is therefore not an exclusive gathering that separates us from the world,  
but a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.*

*Presider* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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(<https://www.diocesemo.org/special-liturgies/>)

The Invitation to and Prayer of Spiritual Communion takes its central meaning from the Order of Service for the Renewal of Baptism and Ordination Vows, and the Blessing of the Oils Service from March 30, 2021 by the dioceses of Kansas, Western Kansas, Missouri, West Missouri, the Central States Synod of the ELCA and Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, and is adapted by Rev. Dr. Marshall Crossnoe.  
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