

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God!

Lift up your heads!

We lift them up to God!

Lift up your voices!

We lift them up to God!

Lift up your wounds and worries!

We lift them up to God!

Holy God, we praise You for Your unswerving love for us. Though we are fragile, though we are wounded, though we are broken, You have never stopped loving us and You have never forsaken us.

Greater love has no one than this: that they lay down their life for their friends.

You take what is broken and transform it through Your death and love.

What once was hurt, what once was friction, what left a mark no longer stings, because grace makes beauty out of brokenness.

So, we join with the angels singing:

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty!

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

In your last meal with your friends, before your betrayal, you took the bread and gave thanks. You broke it and shared it saying, "Take and eat. This is my body broken for you."

Christ's body is broken for us.

May his broken body nourish you and restore you to life.

Christ also took the cup of wine after supper, gave thanks and shared it saying, "Drink this, my blood shed for you."

Christ's body is poured out for us.

May the blood that flowed from his wounds heal you and restore you to life

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Great is the mystery of faith: at the table of Jesus Christ, brokenness is healed by brokenness. Life is restored through death.

So gather at this table not because you are whole, but because you recognize your need for healing. Not because you are good enough but because he loves you in your brokenness and desires to lead you to life. Gather at this table to remember the depths of love that heal the world.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless his holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his blessings!

Amen.