# General Council 44 Opening Communion Liturgy

## Words of Invitation

This table does not belong to us, we are but inheritors of a tradition and stewards of a story. This table belongs to Jesus Christ, and all who long to come to this table are welcome, for the host calls and our whole beings respond.

## Sacrament of Communion

God is with you.
 **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts.
 **We lift them up to God.**Let us give thanks to God.
 **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God,
 Creator of heaven and earth.
We praise you for the glorious resurrection
 of your Son, Jesus Christ,
 for continuing life with you in glory
 and for hosting of this meal with us in the church.
Tending to the brokenness of the world
 and bringing us into unity with you.
Therefore, we join our voices with
 the company of the redeemed to sing your praises.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your light,
Glory to you our God!
Blessed is he, blessed are we, blessed are all who come.
Hosannas ring, archangels sing, blessed are all who come.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your light,
Glory to you our God!**

(sung to [SKYE BOAT](https://generalcouncil44.ca/community/worship-resources) as printed in Gathering Pentecost 2, 2016)

On the Night of the Passover, Jesus sat at table with friends as at Table with us now. Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples saying, “This is my body broken for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

**Almighty God, we have broken open the body of your Word,
discerned your voice in scripture,
recounted your story of redemption
and, with Christ, are becoming part of your unfolding drama of salvation.**

When the meal was finished, Jesus raised the cup. Again giving you thanks and praise, he said to the disciples, “Drink from this cup all of you.” This is the cup of Covenant Renewal that binds us together in one body with the blood of God flowing in us. “Do this in remembrance of me.”

**Almighty God, we drink from a common cup of memory and in each of us flows the force of your presence. Strengthen us to do your will and to proclaim our faith.**

**Christ is our life, God’s Incarnated Word.
Jesus Christ died and entered into death.
Christ has arisen, death has lost its sting,
Christ comes again to meet us in this Feast.**

(*sung to ST AGNES (LANGRAN),* Voices United *459*)

Loving God,
pour out your Holy Spirit
 upon our offerings of bread and wine.
Grant that they may be for us
 the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Loving God,
pour out your Spirit
 on all who share this Feast
 that we may be for the world
 the Living Presence of Christ,
 serving and reconciling all people to you.

Remember your church scattered on the face of this earth,
gather us in unity and preserve us in truth.
Remember the brokenness that still resides in the body of Christ.

Remember our friends who have gone before us into the richness of your presence, especially all those whom we remember in a moment of silence.

In communion with them and with all creation, we worship and glorify You always.

**Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in your Holy Church,
all glory and honour is yours,
Almighty God, now and forever,**

Amen! Amen! Amen!

(*sung three-fold Amen, VU 967*)

## Prayer of Jesus

## Sharing of the Elements

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