



Advent Communion
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Breath of peace, Giver of all life, Source of love that knows no boundaries. Your song of wisdom rang out before the world began; throughout the ages, your song of liberation has impregnated us with your hope for a world where: those considered last and least are first and most; violence is overcome by the power of your ancient love; and all work together for peace.

You bring our longings to birth, and send prophets to awaken us to your approaching Advent among us. We thank you for those who, like Mary, have the strength and courage to give birth to your love in the world; for those who, like the shepherds, dare to seek out the Child of Bethlehem; for those who, like the wise ones, actively challenge violent and oppressive powers.

We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to us in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in tenderness and compassion. We join in the Advent prayer of all your people,

“O come, Emmanuel.”

And, as we wait and watch for your coming among us, we proclaim your goodness, as we sing:
O come, O come, Emmanuel , and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. (VU 1)

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

At this time, we remember Jesus, who on the night before he died, took a loaf of bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and said, “Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.” Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, “This is the new covenant; remember me.”

Gracious God, Breath of peace, Source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole. Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion elements of bread cubes and rice crackers are shared today with tongs; juice is served in separate glasses. Please make your way to one of the serving stations at the front of the sanctuary, by way of a centre aisle. Receive the elements, stay for as long as you wish and then return to your seat by an outside aisle.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and our experiences.

We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.

Adapted from: Alydia Smith, Program Coordinator, Worship, Music, and Spirituality, General Council Office