The Service of the Lord's Supper used at Eden Uniting Church

[Adapted from: A Eucharistic Prayer for the Global Pandemic by Rev. Lane Cotton Winn and Rev. Juan Huertas from the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church]

We are experiencing Holy Communion in a new way today. Though physically separated from one another, we are still bound together as family through our trust in Jesus. As members of the household of God we now join together virtually, yet still present to one another as we gather in heart and mind despite the spacial distance. This presence has been marked by our shared praises and prayers, our shared hearing and affirming of God's word, and now in our shared eating and drinking.

And so, we share in **The Great Thanksgiving**, each time I say, "And the family says," it will introduce a phrase. Please repeat the phrase that follows that introduction.

(Also - before continuing please prepare bread and wine/juice enough for those who will share this Holy Communion with you.)

The Great Thanksgiving

The peace and presence of the Lord be with us. So we lift up our hearts. And the family says: We lift them up to God!

People: We lift them up to God!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God, because it is the right thing to do, not only now, but always - day after day after day. And the family says: Day after day after day.

People: Day after day after day.

We thank you, creator God, that you made us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, our love failing, and our peace broken, you reached out to us again and again, providing healing, forgiveness, wholeness, and new life. When the flood came, You provided an ark. When the plagues came, You provided safety. When evening came, You provided a pillar of fire. When exile came, You provided a new song. Jesus is singer and song. Day after day after day, Your love remained steadfast.

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And the family says: Day after day after day.

People: Day after day after day.

And so with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might!

And the family says: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might! People: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might!

Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.

And the family says: Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.

People: **Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.** Hosanna in the Highest!

And the family says: Hosanna in the Highest!

People: Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Blessed is your Son who came to preach the good news to the poor, release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, freed the oppressed, and announced that the time had come when you would save your people. And the family says: He is our peace.

People: He is our peace.

And the family says: He is now comfort for the sick and grieving.

People: **He is now comfort for the sick and grieving.** By his death on the cross we have been healed.

And the family says: 'by his wounds we have been healed.'

People: 'by his wounds we have been healed.'

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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Let us be a community of healer and hope givers, as together we proclaim the mystery of faith: The family says: Christ has died. People: Christ has died. And the family says: Christ is risen. People: Christ is risen. And the family says: Christ will come again. People: Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Let them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, made whole by his witness, passion and life. In this season of social distancing, may you remind us that we are never spiritually distant from You. We belong to your body.

And the family says: We belong to your body. People: We belong to your body.

May the Spirit make us worthy of belonging to Jesus. May the Spirit enable us to be worthy ambassadors for Jesus as we proclaim the peace he died to gift us and as we imitate his Love for the healing of the nations. The family says: For peace and love in Jesus name.

People: For peace and love in Jesus name.

And now Holy Spirit make us one in Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. And the family says: Amen!

People: Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread This bread reminds us that Jesus died that we have peace with God. **The Pouring of the Cup**

The cup reminds us that Jesus died that we live in God's love.

These are the gifts of God, for the family of God. And the family says: Thanks be to God. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation

I invite you to prayerfully partake in this Lord's Supper by whatever means you have already prepared.

Please take the bread and eat - Christ's body given for you. *Please take the cup* - Christ's life poured out for you.



Prayer After Receiving

Day after day after day you give yourself to us: in two or three gathered in your name, in connection across any distance, and in bread and wine/juice. As we go from this gathering around your table, may we feel restored in our unity with you, companioned by your people, and sustained by the power of your Spirit as we witness, by word and deed, to the gracious peace you have given us through Christ our Lord, Amen.

When the service concludes, the remaining bread and wine/juice can be consumed or returned 'to the earth'.