

WELCOME TO THE TABLE (The Creed)

Gather around for the table is set, Welcome and take your place.
Wide is our circle with Christ at the heart, Sharing our sacred space.

CHORUS

**This is the banquet open to all, Spirit to nourish life.
Here at this meal, here in this place, gratefully we receive.**

Calling forth adults the table to share, Co-celebrating as one.
The gift of each table our daily prayer, the chant of thanksgiving is sung. CHORUS

Eucharistic Prayer: Gratitude for the Harvest

Preface.

1. Blessed are you, gracious God, amid the autumnal decline of the changing seasons.

In the shedding of the leaves, and the waning of summer growth, we know the cycle of birth and death, the blossoming forth and the call to let go.

2. Amid the landscape of rustic colours, our spirits become calm and serene, as we anticipate the darkness of winter-time. May we graciously accept the gifts of each passing season, and never cease to thank you for the diversity of creation's gifts. In union with all who echo joy and gratitude, we, too, lift our voices and proclaim: *Holy, Holy, Holy . . .*

1. Autumn reminds us of the waning and waxing
of all creation, the unfolding rhythms of divine becoming,
the birthing and dying, a time to grieve and to let go.
In this unfolding pattern, the Spirit weaves the great web
of creation, represented on our table
by the simple gifts of bread and wine.

First Invocation.

**ALL: We invoke the Spirit to draw forth from these gifts,
bread of our earth and wine from the grape,
the potential to nourish us more deeply, and assuage the
deep hungers we carry in our hearts and in our world.**

Invoking the memory of tradition.

Co-celebrants: Jesus embraced these very same gifts in the gathering
of the disciples around the table of the last supper,
where upon the bread was broken,
and along with the cup,
was shared among all, with these words:
Take this all of you and eat it;
This is my body which will be given up for you.

Co-celebrants: Then pouring out the cup of libation,
paying tribute to every harvester who reaps for justice and truth,
Jesus handed the cup to those gathered at table and said:
Take this all of you and drink from it.
This is the cup of my life-blood,
the life of the new and everlasting covenant.
In prophetic solidarity, it will be shed for you and for all.
Blessed are we who are nourished in the power of this
sacred memory.

Eucharistic Acclamation: Dying you destroyed our death . . .

2. The autumn season calls us to remember the great cycles
of creation, the birthing and dying of our evolving story.
Autumn and winter bring everything to fertile rest,
to awaken anew in the freshness of spring.
We remember with gratitude, and we anticipate in hope.

Second Invocation.

ALL:

The Spirit never ceases to invigorate our hope.
Filled with the power of that same Spirit, may we
journey wisely through the autumnal decline of life,
gently sustaining each other as we let go the certainties
of former times.

In Union with . . .

1. With all who have tilled the land and gathered in the harvest, we rejoice and give thanks, conscious of so many in our world who are deprived of daily bread. May we spare neither time nor effort: to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly amid creation's autumnal decline.

2. May we befriend each other through light and darkness, In success and failure, knowing that your divine faithfulness forever sustains us. We journey in solidarity with all who inhabit and cultivate the earth. And we remember all who have gone before us, now reaping the harvest of life eternal. Lead us all to the new heaven and the new earth, where our hearts will truly feel at home.

The Doxology.

ALL:

This prayer we make in the name of the One who accompanies us through all the changing seasons, the Creator, Liberator, and Holy Spirit, in whose power we gather here, and heed the call to go forth with trust and hope in our hearts, this day and always. Amen.