God’s Holy Spirit is present here with us in this very time and place!

   We know and sense, our Creator is in our midst!

Let’s give everything we bring, our hearts, intentions, and thoughts over to God.

   We give them all joyfully!

Let’s also give thanks to God who gets everything!

   Of course, God gets everything! God made everything!

   Let’s show our thanks and honor to God.

You’re so right!

   Giving God our thanks and honor is the best thing we can ever do!

   So, let’s do it:

God, you created everything; every living thing was put on Earth by you.

   All people of every nation belong to you!

   So, together with all creation; everything on earth and in heaven

   we add our voices and join in with the world’s eternal song of praise:

Holy, incredible, unimaginable God, full of power and strength, all of heaven and earth are full of the signs of your glory! You amaze us! And your Son Jesus the Christ who you sent to us is equally amazing! We never cease to be amazed by you!
God you are amazing and so is your Son, Jesus Christ.

At just the right time you sent Jesus to us and filled him with your Holy Spirit
so he could show us way you intended us to live.

Filled with your Wisdom he came to show us the Truth about the universe.

We remember how nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus ate the Passover meal
with his disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem, Israel

During the ceremonial meal, Jesus took the bread, thanked God for it,
broke it, and told the friends he knew would betray him:

“This is my body which I give to you. Take it and eat it and remember me.”

When the feast was over he took a cup of wine, thanked God for it and said
to the friends he knew would desert him:

“This is my blood given to you as a new agreement
between humans and God. Drink it and remember me.”

According to your holy plan, Jesus was arrested and executed as a terrorist,
threatening Rome’s national security with the radical message
of how your great love turns the world upside down,
throws the head honchos from their thrones
and lifts up the poor, nobodies to first place.
Three days after his execution by crucifixion on a cross,
the women of his group discovered his tomb was empty and
Mary Magdalene was the first to encounter the risen Christ,
resurrected to show us how great and powerful your love is for us.

Fifty days after Christ’s resurrection people gathered in Jerusalem again,
this time to celebrate the festival of the harvest called Pentecost.
Among the followers of Jesus your wild and holy Spirit broke loose!
Everyone there was drawn in to witness the birth of Christ’s Church and
the gift of your never-failing presence remains with us in the world today.
Your Spirit continues to speak to each of us in our own language
and leads us in the way of Christ as we follow Jesus’ final instructions
to tell the whole world about Your love.

We remember Christ’s perfect love and life by
happily and thankfully give our lives back to you as holy, living sacrifices.
Receive this gift of our lives together with Christ’s gifts for us
as we speak the Truth about our faith:

**Christ dies; Christ lives; Christ is coming again.**
Join me in praying God’s blessing over our symbols:

God, we ask you to once again pour your Holy Spirit on each person in this room and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them the body and blood of Christ
so that by taking them into our bodies,

you will make us the body of Christ for the rest of the world

and everyone will know that You can make all wrongs right.

Renew us in this holy meal and help us remember we are Christ’s Church.

Strengthen our faith and service in every nation and with all people

so we can faithfully show and tell the world how much your love can do.

Use your Holy Spirit to unite us with Christ and with each other

so we can care for the world until Christ comes again

and we all join around his table as family in perfect love.

We proclaim to the world that you possess every good quality

and you deserve all of our honor and obedience now and forever.

AMEN.
Just as the grain that was used to make this bread was once scattered over the land and then gathered together to make this one loaf, God, gathers all people together from all over the world into one holy and eternal community. Happy Birthday Church!

This is Christ’s dinner table.

Christ welcomes everyone who wants to know him to come and eat with him here.

You don’t need to bring anything other than an open heart.

Come and feast!

Written by Rev. Corey Turnpenny 2017

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