

Great Thanksgiving (Third Order APBA form) prophet Joel theme

This text uses themes and language from the book of the prophet Joel. While the Third Order for Holy Communion in APBA is not designed to incorporate seasonal and other variations, this prayer may be helpful on some occasions when a focus on the environment is desired and Third Order Holy Communion is being celebrated.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Lord God of all creation,
for you have done great things.

We trust in you,

because you have sent to us your Word,
the Lord Jesus,

who bore away our sin and shame and condemnation
when the day turned to night,
the earth quaked and the heavens trembled.

You raised him from death
and poured out your Spirit
to make your dwelling place with us
and to restore the fortunes of your people.

You visit your people,
and at the sound of the trumpet
you call us to turn from all our sins.

You give to the fruit trees their full yield,
making the dry places green,
and blessing us with new and abundant life.

Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

And now, gracious God, we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine,
and pray that we who receive them,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
according to our Saviour's word,
in remembrance of his suffering and death,
may share his body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread,
and when he had give you thanks
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying
'Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

[If the bread is broken here, the priest may say

We who are many are one body in Christ,
for we all share in the one bread.]

After supper he took the cup
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins
Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

We eat this bread and drink this cup
to proclaim the death of the Lord.

We do this until he returns.
Come, Lord Jesus!

Father, as we recall his saving death and glorious resurrection,
may we who share these gifts
be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and united in the body of your Son.

When he comes,
the mountains will drip with sweet wine,
and the hills with milk.
A fountain shall come forth from your house, O Lord,
and we shall never again fear or be dismayed.
Therefore we join with all creation's praise:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive praise and honour
and glory and power
for ever and ever. Amen.**

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