The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Creating God, source of our being, we give you thanks and praise for you have brought forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. In the beginning you created people in your likeness. In your likeness, you created people who multiplied and became many—people of many genders, races, nationalities, and abilities. You created the world and all that is in it without borders or walls and you called it "good." For this we praise you, saying:

Holy, holy, holy are you,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is the one
Who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus, our sibling, born of Mary in a stable in Palestine, you confronted the powers and principalities of your time, and welcomed as your friends those who society had cast aside. For love and liberation of your people, you risked your life and were executed by the brokenness of empire. Yet even death could not put an end to the love you embody. Out of death, you arose to new life to live again among your people. With joy we celebrate what you have done, and with dedication we follow you, transformed by your love, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again. On the night that he was arrested by the authorities, Jesus was gathered in an upper room to celebrate Passover, a story of liberation, with his closest friends. He took a piece of bread, blessed it, broke it, and shared it with his friends, saying "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is a new covenant, sealed in my blood, for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this cup, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time that we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the power of Jesus' death and resurrection, until he comes.

Boundless God,

Pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup.

Through these ordinary gifts that sustain our bodies,

Nourish us and transform us,

That we might remember that we belong to each other and to you.

Through this remembering,

Let us be reconciled to each other and to you.

Through this remembering,

May we tear down all boundaries and walls that we have built,

Through this remembering,

May all peoples in all places and times be united in you as we share this meal.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Amen.

(Presbyterian Peace Fellowship by Emily Brewer, Oct. 1, 2017)

