

THE TWELVE STEP THANKSGIVING

DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Celebrant: Let us open this celebration with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

People: *God, grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage To change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

(All stand)

Celebrant: In this Holy Sacrament, let us dramatize the working of the 12 Steps in all our affairs and celebrate our gratitude.

Step 1: *"We admitted we were powerless over alcohol. That our lives had become unmanageable.*

Step 2: *Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.*

Step 3: *Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him."*

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy name, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: *God, we offer ourselves to you, to build with us and do with us as you will. Relieve us of the bondage of self, that we may better do your will. Take away our difficulties; that victory over them may bear witness to those we would help of your power, your love, your way of life. May we do your will always. Amen.*

(Congregation sits)

Reader: (Readings from: 1) 24 Hour Book
2) One day at a Time
3) The Lessons)

(Congregation Stands)

GOSPEL HYMN:

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to _____.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

GOSPEL READING:

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

GOSPEL HYMN:

(Congregation sits)

THE SERMON:

(Congregation stands)

People: ***We offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.***

THE NICENE CREED

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Form III

Celebrant: As we begin to offer ourselves by Confession we remember:

Step 4: ***"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.***

Step 5: ***Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."***

(All kneeling or sitting)

People: ***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves; we are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, "talk the talk and walk the walk" of your way, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

Step 6: ***"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.***

Step 7: ***Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings."***

People: ***My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad, I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows and grant me strength as I go out from here to do your bidding. Amen.***

Celebrant: In the Spirit of our Higher Power, let us show willingness to accept the challenges of Steps 8, 9 and 10.

Step 8: *"Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.*

Step 9: *Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.*

Step 10: *Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it."*

Celebrant: We practice a program of spiritual progress rather than perfection so let us remember, "Easy does it; take first things first; live and let live; let go and let God; one day at a time."

May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you now and in the hour of your death.

(Book of Common Prayer)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

PASS THE PEACE

Announcements (The priest explains the various ways of receiving Holy Communion and/or a blessing.)

ANTHEM OR HYMN

Step 11: *"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out."*

THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer C

(Congregation stands)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: Our Higher Power, Creator of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason and skill. You made us the rulers of your creation. But we turned against you and betrayed your trust and we turned against one another.

Again and again you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your spiritual law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Word, to open to us the way of freedom and peace. By his blood he reconciled us. By his words we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

All: ***Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

(Congregation kneels or sits)

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been made a new people now bring before you these gifts of bread and wine. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, gave thanks and said, "Drink 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we celebrate his death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers, our inward and higher power: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this table for solace only and not for strength, for pardon only and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in your Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in His name; in the spirit of His personality. Risen Lord be known to us in the brokenness of each of our lives so that we may taste the peace, the joy and the freedom of your resurrection.

Accept these prayers and praise, dear God, through the perfectness of your Son, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we offer honor, glory and worship both now and at the hour of our death.

THE LORDS' PRAYER

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

All: ***Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen***

(The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Celebrant: Please come forward to receive communion or a blessing. You are invited to join in singing the songs or hymns during the administration of the Eucharist. Let us pray:

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

(Congregation kneels or sits)

All: *Eternal God, Heavenly Father, You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Grant us the serenity to inwardly digest the strength, the courage to love and serve you, and the wisdom to reach out with gladness and singleness of heart to other alcoholics who still suffer and all who suffer due to the disease of alcoholism.*

Step 12: *"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

SONG OR HYMN

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: *Thanks be to God!*