



While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Matthew 26:26-30  
NRSV

## "Grateful Together"

October 19 & 21, 2018

- The most sincere forms of gratitude are offered in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Problem: We want to be left \_\_\_\_\_.

*"We live in the most technologically connected age in the history of civilization, yet rates of \_\_\_\_\_ have doubled since the 1980s."*

*-Former US Attorney Gen. Vivek H. Murthy*

- We would prefer someone be in \_\_\_ debt, rather than we be in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Gratitude is not about \_\_\_\_\_. It is about \_\_\_\_\_.

### Communal Gratitude in the Bible

- In the Old Testament, Israel had three festivals of gratitude: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and the Festival of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Pagan festivals offered praises to gods hoping the gods would be \_\_\_\_\_ and send more blessings.
- Israel offered gratitude to the \_\_\_\_\_, giver of all good things.

*"The festivals...modeled an alternative community, one based in abundance and joy. Festivals are a microcosm of how life should be."*

*-Diana Butler Bass*

- Jesus celebrated Passover so that the \_\_\_\_\_ may be grateful.
- "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the \_\_\_\_\_ of sins."  
Matthew 26:26-30

- In expressing our \_\_\_\_\_, we recognize our need for \_\_\_\_\_.
- Participating in community requires \_\_\_ to give up \_\_\_ individual power.
- Today, our power can be measured by our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

"If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live \_\_\_\_\_ with all."  
Romans 12:14-18

### Andy and Melissa's Conversation

#### Action Steps

- Ask, "How does my gratitude draw me into \_\_\_\_\_?"
- Prayerfully consider giving a \_\_\_\_\_ of your income in 2019.