Welcome friends and relations! We meet here at the great feasting table of the family of Christ, the Holy One who walked with our ancestors, walks with us now, and will walk with our children for years to come.

> In the very air that we breathe, in the sound of whistling wind and in the slap of the waves on the shore, we give thanks for your presence. In the sound of children's laughter, and in the songs of our elders, we give thanks for your presence.

Lift up your broken hearts:

We lift them up to God.

Let us honour our Creator.

It is right to honour God.

It is right to honour God and to give our thanks.

We give our thanks to God.

Creator and Giver of all life, Source of love we are blessed by all your gifts.

> You brought creation to birth and sent prophets to awaken us to your great dream—a dream in which everyone is treated with dignity and love, justice and mercy, honour and hospitality.

We praise you for elders and prophets, visionaries and leaders, teachers and preachers,

all who have shared the great truth of your love.

We praise you for our brother Jesus, Love in Human Form, who showed to us in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in tenderness and compassion, your Great Heart of Love.

With the flying ones, the swimming ones, the four-legged ones, and the crawling ones, with rocks and trees, mountains and plains, with all creation, we humans raise our voices to you as we say:

Holy, Holy, Holy, 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.

As we gather at this feasting table, as we proclaim the great mystery of our faith:

A New Creed VU 918

Holy Spirit, ...
Come, for all things are now ready.
We are here at the table with all our kin and share with all in need—
the gift of healing for those of us in pain, the gift of reconciliation for those of us estranged, the gift of assurance for those of us in doubt, and the gift of hope for those of us in tears.
May we who share these gifts, share Christ with one another and with all our kin.

Adapted from **A Sacrament of Communion for Seeking Right Relations** by *Teresa Burnett-Cole, Glebe-St. James U.C., Ottawa, Ont. Mississauga, Ont. Gathering,* Lent Easter 2017, pages 86–7. Used with permission.