

# **GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER FOR ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

**Paul Fromberg (adapted from Thomas Richstatter)**

*Presider* Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, to you be all praise and glory. We give you thanks with all your creatures:

With Brother Sun who gives us your light,  
with Sister Moon and the stars of night,  
with Brother Wind, and Sister Water and  
Mother Earth who feeds and keeps us.

We thank you Lord of heaven and earth  
for revealing your way to the lowly and least.  
For your coming in the crown of all creation,  
Jesus, your Son; who shares with us his easy yoke,  
and teaches us his gentle humility.  
We thank you, Most High, because in him  
the poor hear good news and the captive are set free.

On the night before he died for us,  
Jesus was at supper with his friends.  
He took bread, and when he had given thanks to  
you, he broke it, and gave it to them and said:  
“Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Then Jesus took the cup of wine.  
Again he gave thanks and passed the cup, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you  
drink together, do this for the remembrance of me.”

All-powerful, most holy, most high God  
as we remember the suffering and death of your Son;  
his resurrection and ascension to your right hand  
we praise you and we bless you:

*All*      *We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.*

*Presider* We pray that you would send your  
Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine.  
Let them be for us the Body and Blood  
of your Son so that we may become  
One Body, and give you perfect praise.

Lord make your Church an instrument of your peace  
where there is hatred, may your Church sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

May we dwell with you forever  
together with Mary, Christ's mother,  
and all your holy people.  
May we give you glory  
joining our voices with Saint Francis and  
with all your little ones throughout the ages;  
as together with angels and archangels  
we join in the triumphal song:

*All*      *Holy, holy, holy...*