

Great Thanksgiving (APBA Second Order form)
for use when children are present

This Great Thanksgiving Prayer has many images taken from God's creation. It is intended for use at celebrations of Holy Communion where many children are present. It uses the congregational responses found in APBA Second Order Great Thanksgiving 5.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give our thanks and praise to you,
our glorious God,
for creating the world.
You made the stars,
the deserts and volcanoes,
the green and growing things,
and the creatures with fins and fur and feathers.
We see your smile in every night and morning,
your promise in the rainbow,
your face in the faces of all your children.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Thank you for showing such love to your children.
When we were sinners or slaves,
helpless or hopeless,
you came to the rescue and set us free.
The bible stories tell how you came and saved us:
the burning bush, the passover meal,
the Red Sea crossing, the bread in the desert,
and all of the prophets' wise words.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

And then you sent us your Son, Jesus.
He was Mary's baby, born in Bethlehem.
He grew up to feed us and heal us
and teach us the truth.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

And Jesus saved the world from sin.

Evil tracked him down,
his friends failed him,
his enemies crucified him.
But death did not win.
You raised him from the dead
and he came back to us,
full of grace and glory.

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

All this is why we praise you,
our living, loving God.
With angels and archangels,
and all the forgiven friends of Jesus,
we praise you with this song:

**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.]**

On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his best friends.
He took the bread, said the blessing,
broke the loaf, and told them:
This is my body.
Take it and eat it
and, every time you do this,
remember me.

Then he took the wine, said the blessing,
gave them the cup, and told them:
This is my blood,
poured out so sins can be forgiven.
Take it and drink it
and, every time you do this,
remember me.

So we do remember our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
who has done such wonderful things for us.
This is the marvellous mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

And now we pray that you will send your Holy Spirit,
to make us holy,

and ready to receive this holy food,
the body and the blood of Christ.
Fill us with power to do your work in the world.
Give us energy
for loving and blessing,
befriending, forgiving,
and bringing the Good News of Jesus to your children
wherever we go.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise,

through Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our Lord,
and with the Holy Spirit
to help us sing your praises:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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