EASTER SEASON COMMUNION

John 21:1-14

INVITATION

Dearest friends, at this table the Spirit welcomes us all. Here she gives special honor to the hungry and the poor. Here she renews creation with healing and peace. Here she pledges a graceful world to come, a world of joy and dignity for all. And here she lets us taste it, the new way of being togther: bearing each other's burdens, sharing each other's joys, practicing pardon, eating in peace, justice in all we say and do. So come to the Spirit's table. Receive new life. It is for you, for me, for everyone.

PRAISE

Let us pray:

From the first day to the last, O God, you are generous and kind, filling the world with mercy's bread, pouring the cup of mercy's joy.

You give us gifts too many to count: our hearts overflow when we remember you. Even in death, life abounds.

And so we praise you, singing your glory with every creature you made:

Sanctus: Holy, holy holy.... (or some other brief song of praise)

REMEMBERING JESUS

And now, O God, with grateful hearts, we remember Jesus.
When all seems lost, when we are stuck in shame, when nothing we try resurrects our fading hope, he comes to us; he brings the morning's light.

He tells us where to cast our nets. The catch is abundant; our nets are full. He knows we are always hungry; he feeds us hope.

On the lakeshore he lights the breakfast fire, grills fish for us, and bread. In the mist of morning, guilt is gone, shame fades away. We eat together, speaking only of love.

It is always this way with him—food and pardon, mercy and life.

Even on that night when we betrayed him, he gave us bread and wine and told us to remember him and all his mercies whenever we gather to eat.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Then come, Holy Spirit, bless this bread and cup, signs of the Living One truly present here in love. For all who receive these gifts in faith, make them food and drink of lasting life, until the new age of justice comes and every creature beholds it. In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer may follow, and then the distribution of Communion to all.