Invitation to the Table
You invite us this day to be changed, Holy Spirit. Bringer of hope and courage, you will not open an unexpected storyline for us as long as our intentions are to live only in familiar, expected ways. Bring us to this table to be born again. Open us to being remade; provoke and nourish us. We are ready for our lives to be re-bound to you.

Voice 1: Beloved, God’s word of righteousness comes to us in a time of great affliction. The fear of this pandemic season grips God’s word as if to choke its power off. The fear has driven us into our prayer closets; invited us to smear our faces with ash and spread sackcloth and ashes beneath our bent over bodies.

Voice 2: What makes us think God is asking for fasting that invites quarreling when God stands ready to open the gates before us and is leveling the mountains and calling us by name?

Voice 1: God cries, “Up. Share your bread with the hungry and let your fast mean something. Loose the bonds, the thongs, the yokes. Cover those who are vulnerable. Do not hide from one another.”

Voice 2: God’s light is going before us. Do you not see it? There, at the edge of morning it breaks forth. Glory springs up. It is the balm for our wounds, the way in our darkness. It is the wedding garment that God has prepared for us, because the Bridegroom is at hand.

Voice 1: God’s promises are true. If we who love the community God has given us will make manifest the compassion of our hearts, like springs of water, we can pour our lives out for our neighbors and feed them at the table where God’s powerful word is never silent.
Prayer of Consecration
Let us pray:

Voice 1: 
Creator God, you have made the bread; Christ the Redeemer you changed it and you, Holy Spirit will bind our lives as we eat it.

Voice 2: 
Creator God, you have made the vine; Christ the Redeemer, you have changed it and you, Holy Spirit, will bind our hearts as we drink of it.

ALL 
(masked or virtually) How grateful we are! We are ready to be renewed. In the presence of our friends whom we used to stand by in church and the many whom we stand by virtually, we say, “As we eat and drink together, let us imagine God’s body and blood restoring us.” Amen

Words of Institution
One:
We remember Jesus letting the old rules fall to the ground. We remember the scandal of his healing; the strength of his compassion. We remember how he took bread, blessed and broke it – and gave it to them. He gave it even to the calculators and to those who ruin and wreck the unity of the body. He said, “This is my body. Eat of it and become a re-builder of God’s kin-dom.” Take eat and be strengthened."

Those gathered take and eat.

One:
We remember Jesus turning the water into wine so the wonder and laughter of love could go on. We remember how the sky darkened as he bled upon the cross. We believed all had failed. But he had already shed his blood in that upper room as he worked to forge a new covenant rooted in the law of love. He said, “Drink of this, all of you. It is a new blood covenant of forgiveness. Love has swallowed all sin – remember this.”

Those gathered take and drink.

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Thank you for feeding us again, O Spirit of Wisdom. You called us from the streets and invited us, simple as we are, to come in and feast. Now you have filled us and made us strong enough to cease treading the Sabbath and all that is holy underfoot. We are ready to share the food of our homes and the clothes from our backs. We are ready to be light to the wayward and wear the armor of your righteous love as we attend to every task you place before us. We believe we will find in rebuilding relationships of justice, your truest joy. Here, as heaven and earth become one, we pray together, O Most Compassionate Life-giver may we honor and praise you. May we work with you to establish your new order of justice and peace. You have fed us love unto repentance and now we can accept forgiveness and rise to forgive others. Strengthen us for the
time of testing, that we may resist all evil. We go out to proclaim that all the tenderness, strength and love are yours, now and forever. Amen