

What Is This Place

1 What is this place, where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, Sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at his ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a

earth its floor. Walls and a roof, shel - ter - ing peo - ple, win - dows for
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs, and won - ders sent from the
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing, we are each

light, an o - pen door. Yet it be - comes a bod - y that
 past are what we need. We in this place re - mem - ber and
 oth - er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re -

lives when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 speak a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.
 ceive what we need to in - crease: God's jus - tice and God's peace.

This text by a 20th-century Jesuit beautifully captures the fundamental truth that "church" is not primarily the building but the people who come together in order to be nourished by Word and Table so that they may show forth Christ's redeeming presence in the world.

TEXT: Huub Coesterhuis, 1968; trans. David Smith, 1970

MUSIC: *Nederlandse Gedachclanck*, 1626; harm. Bernard Huijbers, 1968

KOMT NU MET ZANG

9.8.9.8.9.6.6

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