

## A TABLE BLESSING

(selections from Robert Farar Capon's *The Supper of the Lamb*)

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### BEFORE THE MEAL

"[The] dinner party is a true proclamation of the abundance of being -- a rebuke to the thrifty little idolatries by which we lose sight of the lavish hand that made us. It is precisely because no one *needs* [...] and dessert at one meal that we so badly need to sit down to them from time to time. It was largesse that made us all; we were not created to fast forever. The unnecessary is the taproot of our being and the last key to the door of delight. Enter here, therefore, as a sovereign remedy for the narrowness of our minds and the stinginess of our souls, the formal dinner...the true *convivium* -- the long Session that brings us nearly home."

**Amen!**

### OVER THE BREAD

To break real bread is to break the loveless hold of hell upon the world, and, by just that much, to set the secular free.

To ask someone to break bread with you is to extend friendship, to proclaim in love that you want -- not *theirs*...but *them*.

It is not incidental that it was *bread* that Jesus *took, blessed, broke, and shared* -- with the hungry multitudes by the sea of Galilee and with the scared few in the upper room.

It is this bread of friendship, of companionship, of communion, that we break tonight.

**Amen!**

### OVER THE CUP

Let us pause and drink to ... a radically, perpetually unnecessary world; to the restoration of astonishment to the heart and mystery to the mind; to wine, because it is a gift we never expected; to mushroom and artichoke, for they are incredible legacies; and to all being, because it is superfluous:

*Prosit*, Dear Hearts. Cheers, Friends and Neighbours.

We are free: nothing is needful, everything is for joy.

God is eccentric; He has loves, not reasons. *Salute!*

***Salute!***