

Liturgy

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 13, Year B

GATHERING

Come and Let Us Sing

Chorus:

Come and let us sing, come and let us sing,
Come and let us sing to the King of Kings.
(repeat)

Enter His gates with thanksgiving,
Enter His courts with praise.

He's worthy to be praised; exalt His holy name.
Glory and honor, majesty and power.

Come and let us shout, come and let us shout,
Come and let us shout to the Lord, our God. . . .

Jonathan Butler. ©2005 Universal Music/Brentwood Benson Songs.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth:

Sing the glory of His name;
make His praise glorious.

Say to God, "How awesome are Your works!

Your power is very great."

All the earth will worship You,
and sing praises to You;

They will sing praises to Your name.

I will sing of Your steadfast love, O LORD, forever.

With my mouth I will proclaim

Your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever.

Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

It is good to praise the LORD,

And make music to Your name, O Most High,

To proclaim Your love in the morning

And Your faithfulness at night.

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– Scripture weaving from Psalms 66, 89 and 92

*LECTIONARY for the eleventh
Sunday after Pentecost, Year B:*

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalm 51

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalm 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

On this eleventh Sunday of "ordinary" time, the longest season of the Christian year, the Church continues to reflect not on the more narrow focus of the shorter liturgical seasons (such as Advent or Easter), but on the broader theme of the ways in which God's people walk, live and conduct our lives as Christ's disciples and as His body here on earth. In these weeks, we are following the ways Jesus taught and trained His disciples as He carried out His earthly ministry; the history of our faith and its foundations as recorded in the narratives of the ancient kingdom of Israel; the explanation, exhortation and encouragement of our faith and our life in community as the Church found in the epistle readings; and the insights and comfort of these truths reflected in the psalm and other Old Testament lections.

A main theme that runs through today's readings, which contain some of the most familiar passages in Scripture, is that of our responsibility to one another as we live in community and fellowship as followers of Christ. We see this especially in Ephesians 4: we are called to bear with, speak to, and always treat one another with God's love, so that all of us may "come to the unity of the faith, ... to the measure of the full stature of Christ." Not only that, but, as Paul emphasizes, the unity of the Spirit requires each of us to be and to do exactly as God has uniquely created us and called us ("as each part is working properly"). In 2 Samuel we read the consequences of David's sin. Oftentimes in reading this narrative our attention is drawn to the parable that convicts David and to David's response. But it is also instructive, in

Come, People of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach,
To gather children in.

Chorus:

Rejoice, rejoice!
Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice;
O, Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days,
With the certain hope of peace.

Chorus

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through every age,
“Our God is all in all.”

Chorus

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Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

INVOCATION

Prayers of adoration, praise, and thanksgiving for God’s presence

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in Heaven above adore Thee;
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Words: Attrib. to Ignaz Franz, 1774; transl. Clarence A. Walworth. Hymn tune: TE DEUM
Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2012 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.

light of today’s theme, to reflect on the prophet Nathan and his obedience to God’s specific call to deliver the message and verdict of guilt to David, the king of Israel. Psalm 51 records David’s prayer of confession and repentance, and we are reminded that that is our proper response, too, when we are made aware of any sin in our lives. Finally, in the gospel passage—the second of five weekly readings devoted to the sixth chapter of John—nestled in the midst of this part of the “Bread of Life Discourse” Jesus admonishes the people: “Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life . . . This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent” (verses 27-29). In the parallel text in Exodus 16, the account of God’s first provision of manna for His people, we note that they were required—in faith and obedience—to collect their daily portions of the “bread from heaven” (collecting a double portion on the sixth day of the week).

The Gathering, contemporary hymn declares that, though we are all in different places in our walk with God, we are united in worship, praise and rejoicing in the Risen King, whose heart is always to gather His children to Himself and in unity with one another.

Music for Ellen’s setting of Holy God, We Praise Thy Name is available in the Hymn Settings section of the music catalog as a lead sheet. (It is also available as vocal line with piano accompaniment and as a choral arrangement by request.) This hymn is one whose verses may be chosen and used as doxologies in a variety of contexts or, as below, sung as a prayer of confession.

Here’s the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/holy-god-we-praise-thy-name>

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: This is the life worthy of the calling with which He has called us:

With all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another in love;
*And making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace –*

**There is one body and one Spirit,
Just as we were called in one hope of our calling;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.**

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high, He made captivity
itself a captive; and He gave gifts to His people."

The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles,
some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
to equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ,
*Until all of us come to the unity of the faith
and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity,
to the measure of the full stature of Christ.*

We must be no longer children, tossed to and fro
and blown about by every wind of doctrine,
by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

**But speaking the truth in love, we grow up in all things
into Him who is the head, even Christ,
from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together
by what every joint and ligament supplies,
as each part is working properly,
grows and builds itself up in love.**

– from Ephesians 4:1-16

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Thus says the high and exalted One who inhabits eternity,
whose name is Holy:

"I dwell in the high and holy place,
and with the contrite and lowly of spirit,
in order to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite."

– Isaiah 57:15

*The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.*

– Psalm 51:17

Merciful God,

You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You.
**We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy.
We have not loved You with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with You, our God.**

[Silent confessions]

*The Profession of Faith sets the pas-
sage from Ephesians 4 for three read-
ers, with the whole congregation
reading the bold print.*

*This traditional prayer of confession,
taken from the Book of Common
Worship, is based on Psalm 51.*

Have mercy on us, O God, in Your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.
**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from Your presence,
or take Your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us
with Your bountiful Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

– based on Psalm 51:10-12

[Silence]

Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs; their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
To dwell in lowliness with men, their Pattern and their King.

Lord, we Thy presence seek; may this our blessing be:
Give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple meet for Thee.

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Text: verse 1, John Keble, 1819; verses 2 and 3, *Mitre Hymn Book*, 1836.

Music: Ellen Koehler, 2013.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen, and hear, the good news of God's forgiveness:

"These are the ones I look on with favor," says the LORD,
"those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at My word."
– Isaiah 66:2

Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is lovingkindness,
and with Him is abundant redemption.

He redeems His people from all their sins.

How blessed are all those who hope in Him!
– Isaiah 30:18b

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Glory Be To God

To You we bring our hymn of praise: Glory be to God.
Hearts and hands together raised: Glory be to God.
Who spoke before the dawn of time: Glory be to God.
Veil of darkness torn by light: Glory be to God.

And with unceasing voice all heaven sings: "Glory be to God!"
Th'anthem of the Lord's redeemed: "Glory be to God!"

You purchased captives for Your saints: Glory be to God.
And opened wide the kingdom gates: Glory be to God.
You overcame the sting of death: Glory be to God.
And clothed us in Christ's righteousness: Glory be to God.

And all Your children cry with loud acclaim: "Glory be to God!"
Sing, O Church, Your sweet refrain: "Glory be to God!"

Glory, glory, glory, glory forever and ever.
(repeat)

Music for Blest Are the Pure in Heart is available in the music catalog as a lead sheet. This simple hymn, with the newly-composed melody, has four verses. We have used verses 1, 2, and 4 here. Please see the commentary on this hymn setting in the Music Room (sheet music catalog) for explanatory notes and performance suggestions. Here's the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/blest-are-pure-heart>

Father, Spirit, risen Son: Glory be to God.
Who was, and is, and is to come: Glory be to God.

And with unceasing voice all heaven sings: "Glory be to God!"
Th'anthem of the Lord's redeemed: "Glory be to God!"

And all Your children cry with loud acclaim: "Glory be to God!"
Sing, O Church, Your sweet refrain: "Glory be to God!"

Glory, glory, glory, glory forever and ever.
Glory, glory, glory, glory forever and ever.
Forever and ever. Forever and ever.

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Matt Maher, Kelly Minter, Stuart Townend.

THE WORD

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalm 51

Exodus 16:2-4,9-15

Psalm 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
Forever. Amen**

Make Us One

Make us one, make us one;
Make us one, undivided body.
Make us one, make us one.
For the sake of Your Name, make us one.

Make us love, make us love;
Make us love, so the world will know we love You.
Make us love, make us love.
For the sake of Your Name, make us love.

Make us pure, make us pure;
Make us pure, and righteous, make us holy.
Make us pure, make us pure.
For the sake of Your Name, make us pure.

Make us one, make us one;
Make us one, undivided body.
Make us one, make us one.
For the sake of Your Name, make us one.
For the sake of Your Name, 'til You come;
For the sake of Your Name, make us one.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Come, People of the Risen King (chorus)

Rejoice, rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O, Church of Christ, rejoice!

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Benediction:

Now, brothers and sisters, we go forth in joy and with thankful hearts
to love and serve the Lord, embracing His call to unity and holiness.
And we rejoice that He has brought us into His household,
placing us in the community of His church – past, present and future –
in all time and in all places.

Amen.

As we walk out our baptisms in the world, may He guide us ever closer
to Him and to one another, in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace,
confirming us in His ways, for His glory alone, forever.

Amen. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“The church is one but has fruitfully spread out far and wide. In the same way, there are many rays of the sun, but one light. There are many branches of a tree, but one strength from its root. And many streams flow from one spring. So, although multiplicity seems diffused by its abundance, unity is preserved in the source. You may try to separate a ray of the sun from its body of light, but its unity doesn't allow a division of light. Break a branch from a tree and, when broken, it won't be able to bud. Cut off a stream from its source, and the separated portion dries up. So also, the church, shining with the light of the Lord, sheds her rays over the whole world. Yet it is one light that is scattered everywhere. The unity of the body isn't separated. Her fruitful abundance spreads her branches over the whole world. She flows liberally, broadly expanding her rivers. Yet her head is one, her source one. She is one mother that produces much fruit. From her womb we are born, by her milk we are nourished, and by her spirit we are given life.” – Cyprian

Lectionary for next week: 2 Samuel 18:5-6,15,31-33 ; Psalm 130;
1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8;
Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

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