

Liturgy

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 19, Year B

GATHERING

Gloria Patri

Cantor:

Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

All:

Glory to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever,
Forever. Amen, amen, amen.

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The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and their expanse declares the work of His hands.

**Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.**

They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

**Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the earth.**

In the heavens He has placed a tent for the sun,
which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;
it rejoices as a strong man to run his course.

**Its rising is from one end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the other end of them;
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets,
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

**Praised and blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore!**

—Psalms 19:1-6; 113:1-3

Creation Sings the Father's Song

Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day,
Till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow;
His breath upon this spinning globe;
He charts the eagle's flight,
Commands the newborn baby's cry.

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

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

On this seventeenth Sunday of the longest season of the liturgical year, the season after Pentecost, we—the Church—continue our extended time of focus and reflection on the ways in which our loving God, through the guidance and power of His Holy Spirit, leads us in all aspects of our lives to follow Him and walk in His ways.

In this five-week period when the lectionary contains readings from the epistle of James, we are pondering what we've referred to as practical matters of faithful living. This week, we turn our attention to our words, considered from many perspectives: What are wise words? How do we learn them, and then practice them? What can we learn from God's creation about praising and blessing Him? What do we say to, and about, one another? What ought to characterize our words? Why are our words and expressions (both our body language and our verbal communication) so central to our testimony and identity as members of the Body of Christ? This sample liturgy reflects these questions and weaves through it the comprehensive theme of blessing.

Ellen's setting of the "lesser doxology," Gloria Patri (used here as a call to worship), is available in the music catalog as a lead sheet and scored for voice and piano accompaniment. It is also included in the collection, Singing the Liturgy, Volume 1. You can hear Gloria Patri in the Audio Media Studio section of the Music Room. Here's the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/gloria-patri>

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:
“Hallelujah!” Fill the earth with songs of worship,
Tell the wonders of creation’s King.

Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time’s embrace,
Unveiled the Father’s plan
Of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally.

Refrain

Creation longs for His return,
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage
Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky,
All heav’n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme:
The glory of our God and King!

Refrain

CCLI Song #5333798 ©2008 Thankyou Music.
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend

This wonderful contemporary hymn, Creation Sings the Father’s Song, obviously echoes the words of Psalm 19. You might also consider more traditional hymns, such as I Sing the Mighty Power of God, or This Is My Father’s World.

INVOCATION

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

All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son;
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225; transl. William H. Draper, 1919.
Hymn tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN. Peter von Brachel;
in *Ausserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried.*

The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.*

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

– Nicene Creed

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

How blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.

How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,
who seek Him with all their heart.

The law of the LORD is perfect,
restoring the soul.

*The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart.

*The commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever.

*The judgments of the LORD are true;
they are righteous altogether.*

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*By them Your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

– Psalm 119:1-2, 19:7-11

[Silence]

But who can discern their own errors?

**Cleanse me from hidden faults.
Keep back Your servant from willful sins;
do not let them rule over me.
Then I will be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.**

This antiphonal rendering of the Nicene Creed is written for two readers or groups within the congregation, designated by the lines printed in regular and italic fonts, and the whole congregation (designated by bold font).

The Nicene Creed was originally drafted and adopted by the First Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. to affirm the essential, eternal divinity of Christ. Theologians use the term homoousios to describe and explain the “consubstantial” nature of the Father and the Son: the Greek word means of the same being or essence. The creed was amended by the First Council of Constantinople in 381 to include, mainly, additions and clarifications about the divinity and work of the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit. This is the statement of faith we now know as the Nicene Creed, and which declares the essential tenets of the doctrine of the Trinity.

[Silent confessions]

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing to You, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

– Psalm 19:12-14

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
All my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
God, the well-spring of life.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my supplications.

**Because He inclined His ear unto me,
therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live.
Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.**

Return to your rest, O my soul,
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

**He has delivered our souls from death,
our eyes from tears, our feet from stumbling.
We will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.**

– from Psalm 116:1-9

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Sweet, Sweet Sound

I am an instrument of the living God,
My life a melody to His name.
More than the songs I sing,
Worship is everything; I live to glorify my King.

Chorus

Hear the song of my life,
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound,
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound.
I raise this anthem high:
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound,
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound.

Through all the mire and clay,
You're washing me with grace;
You carry me, O Lord, through it all.
So I will testify, even in the fire; I live to praise my Savior!

Chorus

Bridge

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord, praise the Lord.
And all creation will sing, "Hallelujah!"

CCLI Song #5384345 ©2009 Songs from Worship Together | Weima Rhymer Publishing |
Wondrously Made Songs. Sarah Reeves, Ed Cash.

THE WORD

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

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 (sung)

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done
On earth as in heav'n.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are Yours.
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

My Lips Will Praise You

My lips will praise You, for You are holy.
My voice will ever rise before Your throne.
My heart will love You, for You are lovely,
And You have called me to become Your own.

I am Your own, and I will worship You alone.
I am Your own, I am Your child.
I am Your own, and I will worship at Your throne.
I am Your own, And I will love You.

CCLI Song No. 2552912 ©1998 Ariose Music/Mountain Spring Music. Twila Paris.

Eric Wyse's setting of the Lord's Prayer, Our Father in Heaven, is available at Score Exchange (<http://www.scoreexchange.com/scores/19379.html>)

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord smile on you, shine His light upon you.
May the Lord lift you, turn His face towards you,
Give you His peace, give you His peace.

May the Lord bless us and keep us.
May the Lord smile on us, shine His light upon us.
May the Lord lift us, turn His face toward us,
Give us His peace, give us His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today,
And blessed now, we will go.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.
(repeat)

Go now in peace; go now in peace.

CCLI Song #7000703 ©2013 Atlas Mountain Songs | Said and Done Music | sixsteps Music |
Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin

Benediction:

The keeping of God and the Lord on you;
the keeping of Christ always on you;
the keeping of the life-giving Spirit, everlasting, be yours.

Amen!

And may Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit –
bless you now and forever, as you go forth into the world
to love and serve the Lord,
manifesting His goodness faithfully in the world around you.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Let us discipline our tongues to administer the Spirit's grace and rid our mouths of all bitterness, malice, and disgraceful words. For we have the power to make each part of us instruments of wickedness of righteousness. Hear how some people make the tongue an instrument of sin and others of righteousness! It is written about some, ‘Their tongue is a sharp sword.’ But about another, ‘My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.’ The former brought about destruction; the latter wrote God's law. Therefore, one was a sword and the other a pen not by nature, but by the choice of those who used it. . . . We see the same thing with the mouth. Those with mouths full of filth and wickedness were accused, ‘Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.’ But this wasn't the case with another: ‘My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.’ . . . So then, knowing these things, let us fortify ourselves on all sides with holiness to ward off God's wrath. Let us make the members of our body instruments of righteousness. Let us discipline our eyes, mouths, hands, feet, hearts, tongues, and entire bodies to be used only in holiness.”

– Chrysostom

Lectionary for next week: Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1;
Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22;
Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 5;
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

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