

Liturgy

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 20, Year B

GATHERING

Come and Let Us Sing

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.

Chorus:

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.

We have gathered to worship and praise our gracious God,
the Lord of creation.

**There is none like You, O LORD,
nor are there any works like Yours.**

All the nations You have made shall come and bow down before You,
O LORD, and shall glorify Your name.

**For You are great and do wondrous things;
You alone are God.**

**O LORD, how manifold are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all.**

We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart;
and tell of all Your wonderful deeds.

**We will be glad and exult in You;
we will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.**

— from Psalms 86, 104, and 9

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

O enter then His gates with praise;
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

Bridge:

Sing to the Lord, exalt His name;
O, make His praise glorious.
Pour forth His praise,
His anthem raise;
Rejoice in Him forever.

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

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1

*Wisdom of Solomon 1:16 -
2:1, 12-22*

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

This eighteenth Sunday of Proper (“ordinary,” counted) time of this long season after Pentecost continues the yearly, extended time of study and reflection for the Church on the ways in which God’s people walk and live daily, together in community as well as in the wider world, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This is the fourth of a five-week period during which the lectionary focuses on what we’ve termed matters of the practical living out of our faith. We’ve looked at the ways we hear and know the voice of God; the relationship between faith and works; more specifically, what ought to be our attitude toward wealth and charity; and how we can habitually learn and practice wise words, especially words of blessing. Today, we attend to what characterizes wise actions: What does “the wisdom from above” look like in practice? How do envy and selfish ambition sabotage our commitment to lead a godly and peaceable life? What do we learn about a servant’s heart from Christ’s words in Mark’s gospel or from the description in Proverbs 31? Where best can we learn, and then practice, the “wisdom from above”? And, what are the blessings promised when we do delight and meditate on the law of the LORD, and draw near to God?

Music for Ellen’s setting of All People That On Earth Do Dwell is available in the sheet music catalog (Hymn Settings) as a lead sheet, scored for voice and piano accompaniment, and arranged for instruments (woodwind quintet, string orchestra, and others on request). It is also included in the

For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

Bridge (2x)

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

Setting and bridge: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words from *Fourscore and Seven Psalms of David* (Geneva, 1561), attributed to William Kethe.
Hymn tune (verses): *Old 100th*, attributed to Louis Bourgeois.

INVOCATION

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

We Fall Down

We fall down, we lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of mercy and love,
At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy,
We cry holy, holy, holy,
We cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

CCLI Song #2437367 ©1998 worshiptogether.com songs; Chris Tomlin

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Beati/Psalm 1

Refrain: Beati, in domo Domini
(Blessed are they who dwell in God's house)

©Les Presses de Taizé (France); Music from the Taizé community

Blessed are those who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful.
*But their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and in His law they mediate day and night.*
They will be like trees firmly planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season;
their leaves never wither, and whatever they do prospers.

Refrain

*But the wicked are not so;
they are like the chaff which the wind drives away.*
Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
*For the LORD watches over the path of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.*

Refrain

sheet music collection, Singing the Liturgy, Volume 1. You may hear several variations of All People That On Earth Do Dwell in the Audio Media Studio.

Here are the links:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/all-people-earth-do-dwell>

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/product/audio/audio-index>

This lovely, simple Taizé song provides a wonderful refrain for a re-sponsorial reading of today's Psalm as the Profession of Faith.

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Who is wise and understanding among you?

Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness
born of wisdom.

*The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield,
full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.*

– James 3:13, 17

[Silence]

Lord Jesus Christ, whose will all things obey:

**Pardon what I have done and grant that I, a sinner, may sin no more. Lord,
I believe that, though I do not deserve it, You can cleanse me from all my sins.
Lord, I know that man looks upon the face, but You see the heart.**

[Silent confessions]

**Send Your spirit into my inmost being, to take possession of my soul and
body. Without You I cannot be saved; with You to protect me, I long for
Your salvation. And now I ask You for Your salvation. And now I ask You
for wisdom; deign of Your great goodness to help and defend me. Guide my
heart, almighty God, that I may remember Your presence day and night.
Amen.**

– a prayer attributed to the Desert Fathers,
5th – 6th centuries

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world;
Grant us peace,
Grant us peace.

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*There are several wonderful settings
of the ancient prayer of confession,
Agnus Dei.*

*See the music catalog (Liturgical Set-
tings section) for other options:*

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/content/liturgical-and-psalm-settings>

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These are promises of God. We rejoice in them!

For though the LORD is exalted, yet He regards the lowly,
but the proud and haughty He knows only from afar.

*The LORD will fulfill His plans and purpose for His people;
His lovingkindness endures forever.*

– Psalm 138:6, 8

It is God who is at work in you,

enabling you both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

– Philippians 2:13

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

We Humbly Bow

We humbly bow before You now;
We lift our lives up to You.
On our knees we bring our humble offering
Of worship and honor and praise.

Chorus

Boldly we come to Your throne, O Father,
But only by grace can we come.
We've been bought by the precious blood of the Lamb.
We lay down our lives before You, Jesus,
We willingly give You all,
As humbly at Your feet we fall.
For it's the highest place of all, O Lord.

On this holy ground our hearts bow down,
Your awesome splendor overwhelms.
But there is no fear, for Jesus You are here;
Your shed blood has made us a way.

CCLI Song #1270955 ©1994 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Tom Brooks

THE WORD

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1

Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3. 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Passing of the Peace

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, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heav'n.
Provide each day our daily needs;
Forgive our sins
As we forgive others' wrongs;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
Forever and ever;
And Thine is the power,
Forever and ever;
And Thine is the glory,
Now and forever,
Amen, amen, amen.

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Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us:
And we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you:
Eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
Paid the price to make us one.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin, shed for you:
Drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond,
And to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n
Around the table of the King.

CCLI Song #5003372; ©2007 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

Music for The Lord's Prayer is available in the music catalog as a lead sheet and scored for voice and piano. It is also available in the music collection, Singing the Liturgy, Volume 1. You can hear The Lord's Prayer in the Audio Media Studio.

Here's the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/lords-prayer>

This contemporary communion hymn is always a good choice for music during the Table. Today, in particular, it draws attention to the unity of the Church, made stronger by the bonds of peace, love, and grace that are especially obvious when we come together to re-member the body of Christ.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Benediction

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within His love.

Chorus

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:
Christ eternal, the King of kings!

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of His communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

CCLI Song #4506980. ©2005 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend and Keith Getty.

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,
faithfully manifesting His goodness, power, glory,
and Kingdom blessing in the world around you.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Those who have not denied themselves cannot follow Jesus. For choosing to follow Jesus and to actually follow Him springs from no ordinary courage. Those who deny themselves wipe out their former, wicked lives. For example, those who once were immoral deny their immoral selves and become self-controlled forever. . . . Those who have become righteous don't confess themselves but Christ. Those who find wisdom, because they possess wisdom, also confess Christ. And those who ‘with the heart believe unto righteousness, and with the mouth make confession unto salvation,’ and testify for Christ's works by confessing them to others, will be confessed by Christ before His Father in heaven. . . . As a result, let every thought, every purpose, every word, and every action become a denial of ourselves and a testimony about Christ and in Christ. I am persuaded that the perfect person's every action is a testimony to Christ Jesus and that abstinence from every sin is a denial of self, leading to Christ. Those people are crucified with Christ. They take up their own crosses to follow Him who, for our sake, bears His own cross.”

– Origen

Lectionary for next week: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124;
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14;
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

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