

Liturgy

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
(Proper 25A)

GATHERING

Hear, O Israel

Hear, O Israel, the people of the Lord:
Be still and know that He is God.
Love the Lord your God
With the fullness of your heart.
With all your mind, your strength and soul.

We draw near through Christ, who saves us;
We draw near to the throne of grace.

Hear, O Israel, the people of the Lord:
Come, lift your voice and praise your King.

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Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

Give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart;
tell of all His wonderful works.

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

Bow down toward His holy temple in worship;
Give thanks to His name
for His unfailing love and faithfulness.
For He is great and does wondrous things;
He alone is God.

**O LORD, how manifold are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all.
The earth is full of Your possessions.**

The LORD will fulfill His purpose for us;
His steadfast love endures forever.

**We will give thanks to You, O LORD, with our whole heart,
and sing of Your ways; for great is the glory of the LORD!**

— Scripture weaving from Psalms 86, 104, 138

Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)

You made the starry hosts,
You traced the mountain peaks,
You paint the evening skies with wonders.
The earth, it is Your throne
From desert to the sea;
All nature testifies Your splendor.

Chorus 1

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
Sing His greatness, all creation.
Praise the Lord, raise your voice,
You heights and all you depths,
From furthest east to west,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

You reached into the dust, in love Your Spirit breathed;
You formed us in Your very likeness
To know Your wondrous works, to tell Your mighty deeds,
To join the everlasting chorus.

*LECTIONARY for the twenty-second
Sunday after Pentecost, Year A:*

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalms 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

There are only a few weeks left in this longest season of the liturgical year, the season after Pentecost (also frequently termed Proper or “ordinary,” counted time). As we’ve taken part in this yearly practice of the Church—a deep consideration of the ways in which we, God’s people, live and walk out our faith in the world by the power and direction of the Holy Spirit—a particular focus of Year A has been on our life together, in unity, as the Body of Christ here on earth. We’ve pondered how our lives in community reflect God’s heart and His intent for His people and the world He created, and the ways in which He has drawn and enfolded us into the fullness of His story, for our good and His glory. We’ve been instructed and edified by the stories of the lives and experiences of the patriarchs, the explanations and instruction of the epistle texts, the teachings and pastoral actions of Jesus narrated in Matthew’s gospel, and the reverberations of these themes in the lections from the psalms and the prophets.

Today, as this season nears its end, we see these themes woven through the lectionary. At the end of Moses’ life, God directs him to the top of Mount Nebo, where He graciously allows Moses to see the full extent of the promised land, though he was prohibited from entering it and leading the people of Israel there as a consequence of his disobedience (Numbers 20). After the time of mourning, the mantle of leadership passed to Moses’ servant and companion, Joshua. Psalm 90 is the final song and prayer of Moses. Leviticus records God’s instructions given through Moses to His people, enjoining them to righteous living in community; the complementary Psalm 1 reveals the blessings to those who delight in the Law of the LORD. In Matthew’s gospel, we find Jesus quoting the words from Leviticus, in answer to the question, “Which

Chorus 1

Let symphonies resound, let drums and choirs ring out,
All heaven hear the sound of worship.
Let every nation bring its honors to the King,
A roar of harmonies eternal.

Chorus 2

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
Sing His greatness, all creation.
Praise the Lord, raise your voice:
You heights and all you depths, from furthest east to west,
You distant burning stars, all creatures near and far,
From sky to sea to shore, sing out forevermore,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

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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, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages
in these words from the epistles of the Apostle Paul:

God, who is rich in mercy,
because of His great love with which He loved us,
even when we were dead in our transgressions,
*He made us alive together with Christ –
for by grace we were saved.*

**We were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified
in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.**

When the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior appeared,
He saved us —

*Not because of any works of righteousness that we had done,
but according to His mercy,
through the washing of regeneration
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

**This Spirit He poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
so that, having been justified by His grace,
we might become heirs
according to the hope of eternal life.**

This is a trustworthy statement.

– Ephesians 2:4-5, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Titus 3:4-8a

Thanks be to God!

commandment in the Law is the greatest?" And Paul's words to the church at Thessalonica draw us into his heart for them, as he speaks of the love, unity, and care within the Church.

This sample liturgy focuses on Jesus' reply, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

What does the LORD your God require of you,
but to fear the LORD your God,
to walk in all His ways,
to love Him,
to serve the LORD your God
with all your heart and with all your soul,
and to keep the LORD's commandments and statutes?

*So owe nothing to anyone except to love one another;
for those who love their neighbors have fulfilled the law.*
For all of the commandments are summed up in this word,
"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
*Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.*

– Deuteronomy 10:12-13, Romans 13:8-10

[Silence]

We Confess

Almighty God, we confess our sin;
What we have done, what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with a whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy.

Most gracious God, we have lost our way.
Like wand'ring sheep, we have gone astray.
We're truly sorry, and we turn back
Now, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy on us.
Have mercy, have mercy.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
*He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.*
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has He removed our transgressions from us.
As high as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.

– Psalm 103:8-12

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
There is therefore now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.
And we know that nothing shall ever separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

– Romans 5:8, 8:1,39

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of God's faithfulness

More Like Jesus

You came to the world You created,
Trading Your crown for a cross.
You willingly died, Your innocent life paid the cost.

Counting Your status as nothing, the King of all kings came to serve;
Washing my feet, covering me with Your love.

Chorus:

If more of You means less of me, take everything.
Yes, all of You, is all I need; take everything.

You are my life and my treasure, the One that I can't live without.
Here at Your feet, my desires and dreams I lay down.
Here at Your feet, my desires and dreams I lay down.

Bridge:

O, Lord, change me like only You can.
Here with my heart in Your hands,
Father, I pray: Make me more like Jesus.
This world is dying to know who You are.
You've shown us the way to Your heart.
So, Father, I pray: Make me more like Jesus.

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Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Kristian Stanfill, Brett Younker.

THE WORD

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

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, 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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How Beautiful

How beautiful the hands that served
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth;
How beautiful the feet that walked
The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.
How beautiful, how beautiful,
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead.
How beautiful the tender eyes
That chose to forgive and never despise.
How beautiful, how beautiful,
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as He laid down His life we offer this sacrifice:
That we will live just as He died,
Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant Bride
Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.
How beautiful when humble hearts give
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the feet that bring
The sound of good news and the love of the King.
How beautiful the hands that serve
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

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Grace Flows Down

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound;
Amazing love now flowing down
From hands and feet that were nailed to the tree
As grace flows down and covers me.
It covers me, it covers me; it covers me, and covers me.

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David E. Bell, Louie Giglio, Rod Padgett.

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.
Link:

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

You can hear The Lord's Prayer in the Audio Media Studio.
Link:

https://clerestorynotes.com/live/content/music_library/lords-prayer-clip

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Psalm 150 (chorus 1)

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
Sing His greatness, all creation.
Praise the Lord, raise your voice,
You heights and all you depths,
From furthest east to west,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

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Benediction

Beloved, as you go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord,
remember this great, good news:
God the Father,
through the eternal Word and the powerful Holy Spirit, created all things.
Through His only Son, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
God revealed His perfect plan in all creation.
And through the Spirit, the Word of God still speaks to us,
enabling us – God’s children – to share in the life, love and community
of the Triune God.

Thanks be to God!

Now to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!
Amen! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Since you should not even love yourself for your own sake, but for God who is most worthy of your love, others have no right to be angry at you if you love them for God’s sake. For this is the law of love, laid down by Divine authority: ‘Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,’ and ‘Thou shalt love God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.’ So, you must offer all your thoughts, your whole life, and your whole intelligence to Him who gives you everything. When He says, ‘With all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,’ He means that no part of our life should be unoccupied, allowing room for other wishes. But anything else that appears to be worthy of love must be directed into the same channel through which the whole current of our affections flows. Therefore those who love their neighbors should urge them to love God with their whole heart, soul, and mind. For by loving their neighbors as themselves, they turn the whole current of their love for others into the channel of the love of God.”

– Augustine

Lectionary for next week: Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Micah 3:5-12;
Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

Lectionary for All Saints’ Day (Nov. 1):
Revelation 7:9-17; Psalms 34:1-10, 22;
1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

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