

Liturgy

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 9, Year B

GATHERING

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons,
Blessèd Trinity!

Words and hymn tune public domain.
Words: Reginald Heber, 1826;
Music: John B. Dykes, 1861

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
His lovingkindness is everlasting!

**We will sing His praises,
speak of all His wonders,
and proclaim the good news of His salvation
from day to day!**

Glory in His holy name;
Let the heart of those who seek the LORD be glad.
Seek the LORD and His strength;
seek His face continually.

**In Your temple, O God,
we meditate on Your unfailing love.
Your praise, like Your name,
reaches to the ends of the earth;
You are righteous in all Your ways.**

Remember His covenant forever,
the word which He commanded
to a thousand generations.

**O LORD, we praise Your name,
for You have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.**

Great is the LORD,
and most worthy of praise!

**Splendor and majesty are before Him,
Strength and joy are in His place.**

Let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation!

— from 1 Chronicles 16 and Psalm 48

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

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

This week brings us to the seventh Sunday of this long season after Pentecost, when the Church observes an extended time of study and reflection on the ways in which God's people walk and live, in all aspects of our lives, under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit. On this seventh Sunday of "ordinary" (proper) time, the lectionary directs our attention to one of God's defining attributes: His holiness. What does it mean that our God is holy? How can we see and perceive reflections of His holiness in others and in the world around us? How can we walk with Him in holiness of heart and actions? What does He require of us, and what are the blessings that come to us as we increasingly perceive and come to know Him in His holiness?

Today's Psalm readings speak of God's splendor and greatness, and of the beauty and blessing of His holy presence. In Samuel, we read of the second anointing of David and of the holy call on his life to lead and rule God's people. Ezekiel records the response of the prophet to the character and call of God. In the 2 Corinthians passage, Paul recounts his experience of Paradise and also, as he tells us, the resulting "thorn in the flesh." And within that, Paul learned the amazing truth that God's grace is sufficient in all things, for His power is made perfect in our weaknesses. And in Mark's gospel, we see the response of the people of Nazareth and the surrounding region—Jesus' "hometown," His "own country" — who were unable to perceive the presence and power of the holy in their midst.

Let It Rise

Let the glory of the Lord rise among us;
Let the glory of the Lord rise among us;
Let the praises of the King rise among us;
Let it rise.

Let the songs of the Lord rise among us;
Let the songs of the Lord rise among us;
Let the joy of the King rise among us;
Let it rise.

Oh, let it rise; Oh, let it rise.

CCLI Song #2240585 © 1997, 1999 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Holland Davis

Holy Is the Lord God Almighty

Bridge

It is rising up all around, it's the anthem of the Lord's renown.
It is rising up all around, it's the anthem of the Lord's renown:

And together we sing; Ev'ryone sing:

Chorus

Holy is the Lord God Almighty.
The earth is filled with His glory.
Holy is the Lord God Almighty.
The earth is filled with His glory,
The earth is filled with His glory.

Verse

We stand and lift up our hands,
For the joy of the Lord is our strength.
We bow down and worship Him now;
How great, how awesome is He.

And together we sing; Ev'ryone sing:

Chorus

CCLI Song #4158039 ©2003 worshiptogether.com songs;
Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

INVOCATION

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

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Christ, to Thee with God the Fa*-ther,
And, O Holy Ghost*, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiv*-ing,
And unwearied prai*-ses be:
Honor, glory, and domin*-ion
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore*. A*-men.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2015 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 5th century; transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker.
Hymn tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong, 11th century.

This Gathering song pairing is an interesting and effective way to medley these two familiar contemporary favorites in a new way. We sing Let It Rise in the key of D, staying in D for the first line of the bridge of Holy Is the Lord God Almighty, then cold modulating to the key of F for the second (repeated) line of the bridge. For added interest, I usually modulate again (to G) for the verse ("We stand and lift up our hands ...").

Music for this setting of the ancient hymn, Of the Father's Love Begotten, is available in the sheet music catalog (Hymn Settings) as a lead sheet and as a sung response or doxology with melody line, chord chart and scored keyboard or organ part.

Here's a link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/fathers-love-begotten>

For the ease of congregational singing, asterisks indicate syllables that are sung with more than one melodic note.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: This is the hope of the gospel,
which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven,
the mystery which has now been manifested to us, His saints:

**Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God,
the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.**

In Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth,
things visible and invisible.

All things have been created through Him and for Him.

He is before all things,
and in Him all things consist and hold together.

He is the head of the body, the church.

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that He may have first place in everything.

*For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of His cross.*

**This is in accordance with the working of the strength of His might,
which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead,
and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all principality and power and might and dominion,
and every name that is named, not only in this age,
but also in the age to come.**

– from Colossians 1:15-28 and Ephesians 1:19-21

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

“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

[Silence]

God of mercy and steadfast love, You welcome all who come to You with
repentant and contrite hearts.

**We confess to You, and before one another, that we have sinned, in thought,
word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

[Silence]

**We have offended Your holiness. We have erred and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own
hearts, and have spurned the promptings of Your Spirit.**

[Silence]

**We have not loved our neighbors as we love ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.**

[Silence]

**O Lord, have mercy upon us. Be gracious to us, and hear our prayer.
Cleanse us from sin and accomplish the work of Your salvation,
that we may walk as Your people in holiness, to the glory of Your name.
Amen.**

*The corporate prayer of confession
adapts and brings together several
traditional prayers of repentance from
the Book of Common Prayer.*

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on me, a sinner.
Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison,
Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Who is like You, O LORD God?

You pardon sin and forgive the transgressions of your inheritance.
You do not stay angry forever, but delight to show mercy.
In Your compassion for us, You cast our sins into the depths of the sea,
as You promised to our fathers from days of old.

– from Micah 7:18-20

**O LORD, there is no God like You, in heaven or on earth,
keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to Your servants
who walk before You with all their heart.**

– 2 Chronicles 6:14

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Holy

I will lift my voice,
And I will sing,
I will sing holy, holy.
To my Lord and Savior,
My God and King:
I will sing holy, holy

Chorus:

I will praise the Lamb of God
Who sits upon the throne.
I will worship Him,
And give the praise to Him alone.
He who was and is and is to come:
I will sing before His throne
Forever, forever.

All the angels sing,
And they bow down,
And they sing holy, holy.
We, Your sons and daughters,
We praise You now:
And we cry holy, holy.

Chorus

Holy, holy;
Holy, holy . . .

Donnie McClurkin. ©2003 Seven Summits Music and Don Mac Music.

THE WORD

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

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)

Be Unto Your Name

We are a moment, You are forever,
Lord of the ages, God before time.
We are a vapor, You are eternal,
Love everlasting, reigning on high.

Chorus:

Holy, holy, Lord God, Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,
Jesus Redeemer, mighty to save.
You are the love song we'll sing forever,
Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

CCLI Song #2177476; ©1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Gary Sadler and Lynn DeShazo

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>)

King of Wisdom and Light

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might:
Heaven is filled with Your glory, King of wisdom and light.

We worship You, we praise You, God Most High;
We worship You, we praise You, King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

CCLI Song #2514352; ©1998 International Liturgy Publications; Jim Cowan

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Holy, Holy, Holy (verse 4)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826; Hymn tune: NICAEA; John B. Dykes, 1861

Benediction:

May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.
May your eyes be increasingly opened to recognize the holy around you
at every moment. And may your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The One who calls you is faithful; He will do it. —based on 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Amen!

Now, brothers and sisters, go forth in joy into the world
to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“We must be persuaded how much God loved us so that we don't shrink from Him in despair. And we need to be shown also what kind of people we are whom He loved so that we also don't withdraw from Him out of pride. But He dealt with us so that we could profit from His strength, and, in the weakness of humility, our holiness could be perfected. One of the Psalms implies this. It says, ‘Thou, O God, didst send a spontaneous rain, whereby Thou didst make Thine inheritance perfect, when it was weary.’ The ‘spontaneous rain’ is grace given freely and not according to merit. He didn't give it because we were worthy, but because He willed. Knowing this, we shouldn't trust in ourselves. That is what is meant by being made ‘weak.’ However, He perfects us and says to the Apostle Paul, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.’ We, then, must be persuaded how much God loved us and what type of people we were whom He loved. The former is important, lest we despair; the latter, lest we become proud.”

– Augustine

Lectionary for next week: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24;
Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13;
Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

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