

# A Celebration of Blessing



June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2004

Three o'clock in the afternoon

## Veni Creator.



One holy Ghost eter-  
nall God, proceeding  
from aboue, both from the Father and the  
Sonne, the God of peace and loue. Vifit  
our minds, and into vs thy heauenly grace  
inspire, that in all truth and godlinesse we  
may haue true defire.

Dear Friends

Welcome to the celebration of our blessing! Thank you for feasting with us and for sharing your blessings and joy. We are very grateful for your coming and especially for the gracious help and support we received from the rector of \_\_\_\_\_ and from \_\_\_\_\_ our wonderful minister of music and worship. We would not be here without you, dear friends, and without an ever growing trust in the mystery and goodness of God.

&

# WELCOME & CANDLE-LIGHTING

Musical Meditation over Psalm 19 and Procession

Welcome by

Candle Lighting:

We wish to begin our celebration by remembering the blessings and moments of goodness in our lives. Think about an event, a feeling, or encounter that gave you hope, expanded your heart, and resonated with life for you. If you wish, gather and share this blessing with the gesture of silently lighting a candle.

\* \* \*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading is taken from the Song of Solomon 2

We wish to read this reading together and in divided “roles.” If you are seated on the left side of the chapel then you are invited to read the role of the “Beloved”. If you are seated on the right hand side of the chapel please read the role of the “Lover.”

[The BELOVED: read by people seated on the left side of the chapel]

I am a rose of Sharon,  
a lily of the valleys.

[The LOVER read by people seated on the right side of chapel]:

*Like a lily among thorns  
is my darling among the maidens*

BELOVED:

Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest  
is my lover among the young men.

I delight to sit in his shade,

and his fruit is sweet to my taste.

He has taken me to the banquet hall,

and his banner over me is love.

His left arm is under my head,

and his right arm embraces me.

Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge you

by the gazelles and by the does of the field:

Do not arouse or awaken love

until it so desires.

Listen! My lover!

Look! Here he comes,

leaping across the mountains,

bounding over the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Look! There he stands behind our wall,

gazing through the windows,

peering through the lattice.

My lover spoke and said to me,

LOVER:

*“Arise, my darling,  
my beautiful one, and come with me.*

*See! The winter is past;*

*the rains are over and gone.*

*Flowers appear on the earth;*

*the season of singing has come,*

*the cooing of doves*

*is heard in our land.*

*The fig tree forms its early fruit;*

*the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.*

*Arise, come, my darling;*

*my beautiful one, come with me.”*

*My dove in the clefts of the rock,*

*in the hiding places on the mountainside,*

*show me your face,*

*let me hear your voice;*

*for your voice is sweet,*

*and your face is lovely.*

BELOVED:

My lover is mine and I am his;

he browses among the lilies.

Until the day breaks

and the shadows flee,

turn, my lover,

and be like a gazelle

or like a young stag

on the rugged hills.

\* \* \*

Musical Offering by &

“Panis Angelicus” for voice and piano

[C. Frank 1822-1890]

Panis Angelicus fit panis hominum;

Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum:

O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum.

Pauper, pauper, servus et humilis.

Heavenly bread that becomes the  
bread for all mankind;  
Bread from the angelic host that is  
the end of all imaginings.  
O, miraculous thing! This Body of  
God will nourish even the poorest,  
The most humble of servants.

Please, let us all stand to sing the Hallelujah Song

“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

\* \* \*

The second reading is taken from Psalm 19

“The Heavens declare the glory of God . . .”

\* \* \*

Musical Offering by & “Andante non troppo moderato”

Concerto for Flute in G-Major

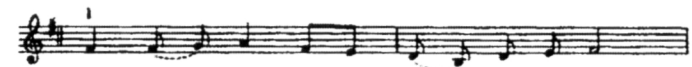
[C. Stamitz 1745-1801]

\* \* \*

The third reading is taken from 1 Corinthians 13, 1-13

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three;  
but the greatest of these is love.”

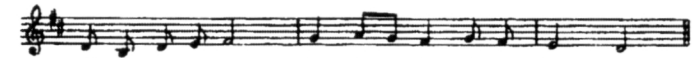
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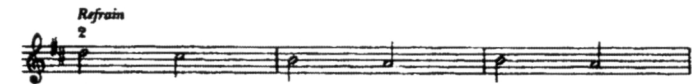
1 Seek ye — first the king - dom of God  
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you.



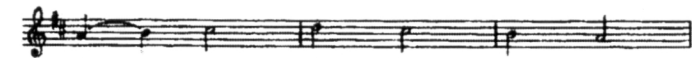
and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be  
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ial  
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ial



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: St. 1, Matthew 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty (20th cent.). St. 2, Matthew 7:7.  
Stanza 2 is not part of the hymn as originally written.  
Music: Seek Ye First, Karen Lafferty (20th cent.)

13. 11. 7 with Alleluia

Hymn 711 in *The Hymnal 1982*,

© The Church Pension Fund. CCLI # 1600362

A Reading of the Holy Gospel According to Mathew: 14, 22-36

(Please remain standing during the gospel reading)

<sup>22</sup>Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup>After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but the boat was already a considerable distance<sup>[1]</sup> from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup>During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup>When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." <sup>28</sup>"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>"Come," he said.

<sup>9</sup>Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup>Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

<sup>34</sup>When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. <sup>35</sup>And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him <sup>36</sup>and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed.

\* \* \*

Let us now sit down to listen to the Homily

\* \* \*

BLESSED PARTNERS IN LIFE, LOVE AND FAITH

Declaration of Consent

(Please stand for this part of the ceremony)

will now ask us: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, whether we wish to become blessed partners in life, love and faith: "Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?"

And then she will turn to you all and ask you to support us. We hope you answer with a resounding "We will" when she will ask you: "Will all of you witnessing these promises do all in your power to uphold these two persons in their blessed partnership?"

\* \* \*

Exchange of Vows

In the Name of God, I,  
\_\_\_\_\_ take you,  
to be my beloved partner in life,  
love and faith, to have and to  
hold from this day forward, for  
better for worse, for richer for  
poorer, in sickness and in health,  
to love and to cherish, until we  
are parted by death. This is my  
solemn vow.

In the Name of God, I,  
\_\_\_\_\_ take you,  
to be my beloved partner in life,  
love and faith, to have and to  
hold from this day forward, for  
better for worse, for richer for  
poorer, in sickness and in health,  
to love and to cherish, until we  
are parted by death. This is my  
solemn vow.

Blessing of Rings

Only with the help of God's blessing can we cross the waters of our fears and insufficiencies and walk towards life, deeper healing and growth together. We ask you to be bearers of this blessing. If you wish, come up to us, lay your hand on the rings in our palms and bless them with a silent wish.

During the Blessing of the Rings, will lead us in singing the special chous:

“Veni Sanctus Spiritus”

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

A musical offering by

\* \* \*

### EXCHANGE OF RINGS & PRONOUNCEMENT

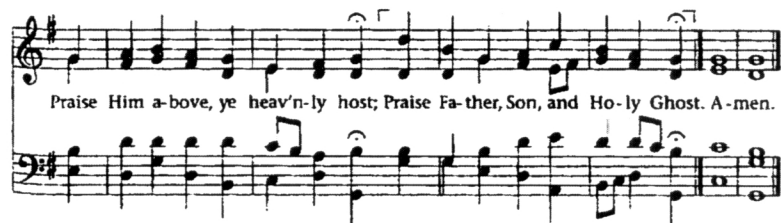
“I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!”

In answer to ’s pronouncement, we all sing:

The Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea- tures here be-low;



Praise Him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711  
MUSIC: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551 Edition; attr Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OLD 100TH (altered)  
8.8.8.8.(I.M.)

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Please feel free to participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist as fully as it seems right to you. Let us pray that the invitations to feast with God and to share the divine life among us may become something we can taste in our world.

During the preparation of the altar the gifts are brought to as a sign of those things in our lives that are nourishing and hard like bread and those things that are inebriating, flowing and joyful like wine. May all this and all that we are be transformed into an offering of glory and praise of God and into the song of glory and praise that God sings over our lives.

\* \* \*

Please, let us all stand to sing  
 "To God be the Glory"

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done; So loved He the  
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood To ev - 'ry be -  
 3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our re -

world that He gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an a -  
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; The vil - est of - fend - er who  
 joic - ing thro' Je - sus the Son: But pur - er, and high - er, and

tone - ment for sin, And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 tru - ly be - lieves, That mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.  
 great - er will be Our won - der, our vic - t'ry, when Je - sus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord,

praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther, thro'

WORDS: Fanny I Crosby, 1820-1915  
 MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
 11.11.11.11. with Refrain

Used with permission from *The Baptist Hymnal*, p. 4.

(Please remain standing for the Eucharistic prayer that begins now)

SURSUM CORDA:

Presider	The Lord be with you.
People	<b>And also with you.</b>
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	<b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	<b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b>

PRESIDER

All thanks and praise  
 are yours at all times and in all places  
 our true and loving God;  
 through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
 the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.  
 You laid the foundations of the world  
 and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;  
 You brought forth all creatures of the earth  
 and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
 all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
 And so as the morning stars sing your praises  
 we join the heavenly beings and all creation  
 as we shout with joy:



## SANCTUS:

Holy, holy, holy Lord (Sanctus)  
(Hymn S 125)

Setting: From A Community Mass,  
Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Hymn S 125 in *The Hymnal* 1982, published by The Church Hymnal Corporation, 800 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017. © Church Pension Fund. Used by permission.

## THE PRESIDERS CONTINUES

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,  
your Word has never been silent;  
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,  
you delivered them from bondage  
and led them to a land of promise.  
Of your grace, you gave Jesus  
to be human, to share our life,

to proclaim the coming of your holy reign  
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
you have freed us from sin,

brought us into your life,  
reconciled us to you,  
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread,  
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,  
gave it to his friends and said:  
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
“Drink this, all of you:  
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,  
poured out for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:  
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,  
longing for Christ’s coming in glory,  
and presenting to you these gifts  
your earth has formed and human hands have made  
we acclaim you, O Christ:

## PRESIDER AND PEOPLE

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

## THE PRESIDERS CONTINUES

Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us  
the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,  
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,  
and in the fullness of time gather us  
with blessed Saint Paul and Saint James and all your people  
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
we worship you our God and Creator  
in voices and unending praise.

PRESIDER AND PEOPLE

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

\* \* \*

#### COMMUNION

If you wish to share in the bread and wine of the Eucharist of  
Christ please come forward. Our friend \_\_\_\_\_ will assist \_\_\_\_\_  
in distributing communion. If you wish not to participate in  
communion please feel free to remain seated.

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

Musical Offering by \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ :

“Sheep May Safely Graze”

Text: Salomo Frank  
trans. and para. by Julia Morgan  
Music: WAS MIR BEHAGT, J.S. Bach;  
arr., Julia Morgan

*Flocks of sheep may safely graze while in their shepherd's tender care:  
Safely graze and safely slumber,  
Free from danger, free from hunger, in their shepherd's tender care.*

*As the shepherd leadeth well, so God, with kind and loving mind,  
leads those who in God's care will dwell.  
Where the shepherd leadeth well, there rest is found and peace abounds.*

\* \* \*

#### GO TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

May the Blessing of this time remain woven into the tapestry of our  
lives!

In answer to \_\_\_\_\_'s prayer of blessing we will turn the page and sing  
“Amazing Grace.”

“We have no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun”  
– this line has a feeling of freedom for us. There are always more days  
to try to make our lives into a song, to enjoy and to let us fall into  
God's praise!

Please, let us all stand to sing

“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
\*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me  
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.  
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.*

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, John Rees (19th cent.)

Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921);  
harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919)

*“Entreat me not to leave you,  
Or to turn back from following after you;  
For wherever you go, I will go;  
And wherever you lodge, I will lodge;  
Your people shall be my people,  
And your God, my God.*

*Where you die, I will die,  
And there will I be buried.  
The LORD do so to me, and more also,  
If anything but death parts you and me.”*

Ruth 1:16-17 NKJV