

Christ Church Liturgy, April 17, 2016

Meditation

Psalm 103:17-18

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.

God Calls Us to Worship:

Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! For His merciful kindness is great toward us and the truth of the Lord endures forever. **AMEN**

Holy, Holy, Holy!

(Hymn 100)

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, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,

Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee

Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

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! AMEN

Responsive Reading

Sursum Corda

Leader: Praise the LORD.

Congregation: Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty

heavens.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation. In the beginning You separated light from darkness, and placed all Your works in our hands. You have given us the light of day that we might see Your wonders in all we say and do; You give us the gentle darkness of the night that we might rest from our burdens and be refreshed in body and spirit.

Congregation: **Break through the darkness of our sins with the splendor of Your mercy and love. Send Your light to dispel our fears and anxieties and fill us with hope and joy.**

Leader: Glory, praise, and honor are Yours, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Congregation: **In the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN**

Psalm 104A

Book of Psalms for Singing

My soul, bless the LORD! LORD God, You are great!

With honor arrayed, majestic in state,
You cover Yourself with a garment of light
And stretch out the sky as a curtain by night.

The beams of Your courts in waters You laid;
On wings of the wind Your pathway You made.
The clouds are Your chariot; the winds do Your will;
The flames and the lightnings Your pleasure fulfill.

You set up the earth on foundations sure,
That always it should unshaken endure.
The deep like a garment about it You cast;
The waters stood high; over mountains they passed.

But at Your rebuke the high waters fled;
Your thunder they heard and fast away sped.
The mountains arose, and the valleys sank low;
The place You appointed for them now they know. AMEN

Confession of Sin: Psalm 41:4, 10a
I said, "Lord, be merciful to me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You." O
Lord, be merciful to me, and raise me up... AMEN

Silent Confession followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Congregation: Lord Jesus, we sin.

**Grant that we may never cease grieving because of it,
Never be content with self,
Never think we can reach a point of perfection.
Kill our envy, command our tongues,
Trample down self.
Give us grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, peaceable,
To live for Thee and not for self,
To copy Thy words, acts, spirit,
To be transformed into Thy likeness,
To be consecrated wholly to Thee,
To live entirely to Thy glory
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 3:14, 16

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death... By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
AMEN

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!
Congregation: Thanks be to God!

O God, to Us Show Mercy Hymn 437

O God, to us show mercy and bless us in your grace;

cause now to shine upon us the brightness of your face;
that so your way most holy on earth may soon be known,
and unto ev'ry people your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you, let all the nations sing;
in ev'ry land let praises and songs of gladness ring;
for you shall judge the people in truth and righteousness,
and through the earth the nations shall your just rule confess.

O God, let people praise you, let all the nations sing,
for earth in rich abundance to us her fruit shall bring.
The Lord our God shall bless us, our God shall blessing send,
and all the earth shall fear him to its remotest end. AMEN

Luther's Commentary on the Second Article of the Apostles Creed

We believe that Jesus Christ true God, Son of the Father from eternity,
and true Man, born of the Virgin Mary is our Lord. He has redeemed us,
lost and condemned persons, saved us at great cost from sin, death, and the
power of the devil, not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious
blood and his innocent suffering and death. All this He has done that we may
be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting
righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead
and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true. AMEN

Intercessory Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1-2, 5

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of
thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence... For there is one God and one
Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. AMEN

Congregation: Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

As we forgive our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
AMEN

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

God Consecrates Us with His Word

The Reading of the Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

The Sermon: "Here, There, and Everywhere"

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Hymn 457

1 Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God:
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor

daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander - Lord, I feel it -
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above. AMEN

God Communes With Us

Congregation:

Thanks be to You,
O God, for Your presence and Your purpose,
for Your lovingkindness and Your steadfast Spirit.
May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith,
increase our generosity, and unify our hearts,
for we pray in the name of Jesus,
the Risen One. AMEN

469 How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place

Hymn 469

1 How sweet and awesome is the place
with Christ within the doors,
while everlasting love displays
the choicest of her stores.

2 While all our hearts and all our songs
join to admire the feast,
each of us cries, with thankful tongue,
"Lord, why was I a guest?"

3 "Why was I made to hear your voice,
and enter while there's room,
when thousands make a wretched choice,

and rather starve than come?"

4 'Twas the same love that spread the feast
that sweetly drew us in;
else we had still refused to taste,
and perished in our sin.

5 Pity the nations, O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
send your victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.

6 We long to see your churches full,
that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul,
sing your redeeming grace. AMEN

God Commissions Us

1 Corinthians 15:58

Elder: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. **AMEN**

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Hymn 162, verse 5

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!
AMEN