

Episcopal Church of the Ascension
Contemplative Eucharist -11 March AD 2018

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn

Though the Mountains May Fall

Refrain

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (C)
F B \flat F B \flat

Descant:

Though the moun - tains may fall and the hills turn to dust,

Melody:

(Am 7) (G) (E 7) (Am)
Cm 7 B \flat G 7 Cm

yet the love of the Lord will stand

(D) (G) (D) (C)
F B \flat F B \flat

as a shel - ter for all who will call on the Lord.

(Am 7) (G) (D) (C) (G)
Cm 7 B \flat F E \flat B \flat Last time

Sing the praise and the glo - ry of God. Last time



(C) (F#m) (Bm)
 Eb Am Dm

Descant:



1. Could the Lord ev - er leave you? Could the
 2. Should we turn and for - sake you, you will
 3. Go to God when you're wea - ry; you'll be
 4. As was sworn to your fore-bears, when the

Melody:




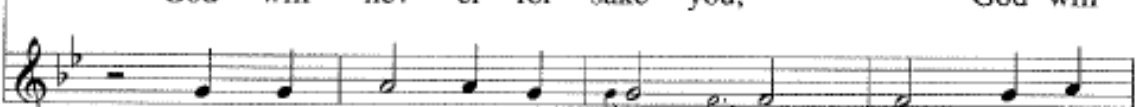
(C) (Am7) (G)
 Eb Cm7 Bb

Lord for - get to love?
 gent - ly call our name.
 giv - en ea - gle's wings,
 flood de - stroyed the land;




(C) (F#m) (Bm)
 Eb Am Dm

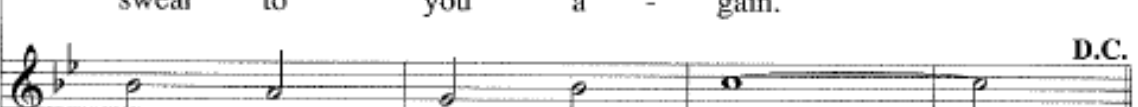
Though a moth - er for - sake her child, God will
 Should we wan - der a - way from you, you will
 You will run, nev - er tire, for your
 God will nev - er for - sake you; God will

(C) (Am7) (D)
 Eb Cm7 F

not a - ban - don you.
 al - ways take us back.
 God will be your strength.
 swear to you a - gain.

D.C.

Text: Isaiah 54:6-10, 49:15, 40:31-32; Dan Schutte, b.1947
 Tune: Dan Schutte, b.1947; acc. by Michael Pope, SJ
 © 1975, Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music

Read responsively.

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good,
because his faithful love lasts forever!”

That’s what those who are redeemed by the Lord say,
the ones God redeemed from the power of their enemies,

the ones God gathered from various countries,
from east and west, north and south.

Some of the redeemed were fools because of their sinful ways.
They suffered because of their wickedness.

They had absolutely no appetite for food;
they had arrived at death’s gates.

So they cried out to the Lord in their distress,
and God saved them from their desperate circumstances.

God gave the order and healed them;
he rescued them from their pit.

Let them thank the Lord for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people.

Let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices
and declare what God has done in songs of joy!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [3: 14-21]
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won’t perish but will have eternal life. God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him isn’t judged; whoever doesn’t believe in him is already judged, because they don’t believe in the name of God’s only Son. “This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. All who do wicked things hate the light and don’t come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Silence, and Response

Meditation

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

Verses



1. I am the Bread of life. You who
 2. The bread that I will give is my
 3. Un - less you eat of the
 4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion,
 5. Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that
 1. Yo soy el pan de vi - da. El que
 2. El pan que yo da - ré es mi
 3. Mien - tras no co - mas el
 4. Yo soy la re - su - rrec - ción.
 5. Sí, Se - ñor, yo cre - o que



come to me shall not hun - ger; and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the
 vie - ne a mí no ten - drá ham - bre. El que
 cuer - po vi - da del mun - do, y el que
 cuer - po del hi - jo del hom - bre, y
 Yo soy la vi - da. El que
 tú e - res el Cris - to, El



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, Who have
 cree en mí no ten - drá sed. Na - die vie - ne a
 co - ma de mi car - ne ten - drá vi - da e -
 be - bas de su san - gre, y be - bas de su
 cree en mí, aun - que mu - rie -
 Hi - jo de Dios, que vi - no al

Intercessions

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, pausing for silence between petitions, and then offering spoken prayers as inspired to do so.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

God of love.
You hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

God of love.
You hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

God of love.
You hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

God of love.
You hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

God of love.
You hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

We pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for Harriette Eleanor Cooper, Mike Darracott, Delores Finister, Sally and William Glick, Margaret Joseph, Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro, Sarah Olsen, Easton Pool, Fran Spina, Ruthie Swain, Kim Weaver, Suzanne Winterhalter, Sharon Wood, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, as well as for all those on our extended healing prayer list.

God of love.

You hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers, the leader says:

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and to do. In God there is forgiveness. Let us confess our sins.

All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The celebrant says

Through the cross of Christ, may God have mercy on us, pardon us and set us free. Know that we are forgiven, and be at peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand

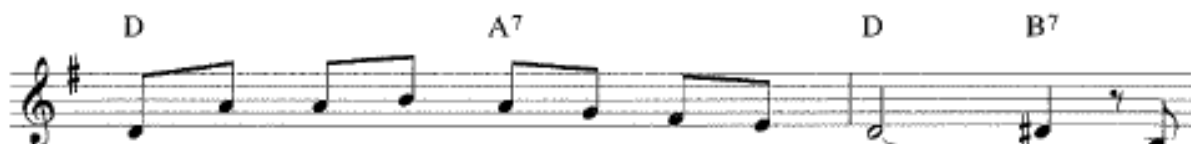
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

People greet one another in the name of the Lord.



1. Wel-come, all you no - ble saints of old, As
 2. El - ders, mar - tyr's, all are fall - ing down; ?
 3. Beg - gars, lame, and har - lots al - so here; Re -
 4. Who is this who spreads the vic - t'ry feast? ?
 5. Here he gives him - self to us as bread: ?
 6. Wor - ship in the pres - ence of the Lord. With
 7. When at last this earth shall pass a - way. When



now be - fore your ver - y eyes un - fold. The
 Pro - phets, pa - tri - archs are gath - 'ring 'round. What
 pen - tant pub - li - cans are draw - ing near; ?
Who is this who makes our war - ring cease? ?
 Here, as wine, we drink the blood he shed. ?
 joy - ful songs and hearts in one ac - cord. And
 Je - sus and his bride are one to stay. The



won - ders all so long a - go fore - told:
 an - gels long to see now we have found.
 Way - ward sons come home with - out a fear.
Je - sus, ris - en Sav - ior, Prince of Peace. In
 Born to die, we eat and live in - stead!
 let our host at ta - ble be a - dored.
 feast of love is just be - gun that day.



Christ there is a ta - ble set for all. In all.

Text: Robert J. Stamps
 Tune: CENEDIUS, Irregular, Robert J. Stamps
 © 1972, Dawn Treader Music

We offer gifts of money, bread and wine to show that all we have and all that we are comes as a gift from God.

The Holy Communion

It is recommended that people stand as they are able throughout the following prayer.

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.(2X)

Celebrant

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we now pray:

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all.
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples
of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

*As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say:*

**Our Father in heaven,
holy is your Name,
your kingdom come
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us
as we forgive others.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

icThe Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

The Celebrant invites the people saying

The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives in you.

Administration of the Sacrament: *At Ascension, all are welcome to receive the bread and wine. Come to the communion station and receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine when the cup is offered to you. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Make your need known to the Clergy by holding up three fingers. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion station and cross your arms over the front of your chest - this will alert the Clergy of your desire to be blessed.*

The ministers say the following words:

The Spirit of Christ, the bread of life.
The Spirit of Christ, the cup of life.

The communicant may respond each time
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in Jesus and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.

The Blessing
Closing Hymn

I Danced in the Morning



1. I danced in the morn-ing when the
2. I danced for the scribe and the
3. I danced on the Sab-bath and I
4. I danced on a Fri-day when the
5. They cut me down and I



world was be-gun, And I danced in the moon and the
phar-i-see, But they would-n't dance, and they
cured the lame: The ho-ly peo-ple said it
sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the
leap up high; I am the life that-'ll



stars and the sun, And I came down from heav-en and I
would-n't fol-low me; I danced for the fish-er-men, for
was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they
dev-il on your back. They bur-ied my bod-y and they
nev-er, nev-er die; I'll live in you if you'll



danced on the earth; At Beth-le-hem I had my birth.
James and John; They came with me and the dance went on.
hung me high, And left me there on a cross to die.
thought I'd gone; But I am the dance and I still go on.
live in me: I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.



Dance then wher-ev-er you may be; I am the Lord of the



dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wher-ev-er you may be, And I'll

The Dismissal

Celebrant:
People:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.