Soli Deo Gloria



# COMMUNITY-WIDE WORSHIP SERVICE

## Observing the International Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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Sunday, January 20, 2019, 5:00 PM Saint Francis de Sales Church Holland, Michigan

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A gathering of Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer [CUSP}

At least once a year, Christians remember Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (John 17:21). In response, Christians come together to pray for their unity. Congregations and parishes all over the world exchange preachers or arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services. The occasion for this special experience is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The traditional period in the northern hemisphere for the Week of Prayer is January 18 to 25. Those dates were proposed in 1908 by Paul Wattson because they coincide with the feasts of the Chair of St. Peter and the Conversion of St. Paul, which he considered to have symbolic significance for Christian unity. In the southern hemisphere churches have chosen other periods to celebrate the Week of Prayer, often around Pentecost, which is also a symbolic date for the unity of the Church.

Continuing the tradition, the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church have been inviting their ecumenical partners to provide liturgical texts based on a biblical theme to guide the Week of Prayer since 1968. In 2019 they chose Christians from Indonesia for this task. With a population of 265 million, 86 per cent of whom are Muslim, Indonesia is known to have the largest Muslim population of any country. However, about 10% of Indonesians are Christian from various traditions. In recent years political corruption and economic exploitation have conspired to widen the gap between the rich and the poor in Indonesia. Scandalized by the spectacle of a country so rich in resources with yet so many living in poverty, Christian communities have joined together in common concern about the corruption, greed and injustice that threatens the stability of this largest nation in South East Asia. For this reason, they have chosen as this year's theme "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue," a command that God gives to the covenant people in Deuteronomy. These communities are convinced that it is through our unity in Christ that we Christians can most effectively combat injustice and meet the needs of its victims.

Our service is celebrated in solidarity with our Christian brothers and sisters in Indonesia. At the same time, we have adapted the liturgy to express the realities in our own context here in Holland. May God's Spirit unite our hearts as we worship God together!

*Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer (CUSP)* is successor to the team that organized and presented five events in October of last year, commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. CUSP is best described by its mission statement:

In the crucified and risen Christ we are reconciled to God and to one another. This is at the heart of the Christian message to which the Church is called to give witness in the world. Deep and painful divisions among its members today, however, obscure this message and therefore compromise its witness.

Out of a shared commitment to overcome these divisions, CUSP was formed. Located in the Holland community, we are a fellowship of Protestants and Catholics convinced that Christians joining in public assembly to sing and pray together can help to restore and promote our unity. Our conviction is rooted in the acknowledgment that Christian unity is both gift and task. In celebrating together our common faith, we recover a vision of the inestimable gift that God has granted to us in Christ. Renewed thereby in our appreciation of this gift, we go out energized to take up the difficult task of reconciling with fellow Christians whose differences keep us separated.

#### **Participants:**

Worship Leader: Rev. Charles D. Brown Homilist: Rev. Ryan Winningham Readers: Reina Arriola, Tom Ludwig Cantor: Phillip Konczyk

The Holland Ecumenical Choir A division of CUSP Music Director: Robert J. Btastini Organist: Rhonda Sider Edgington The DeSales Brass

Participants, including choir members, are from the following area churches: Baldwin St, CRC (Jenison, Bethel CRC (Zeeland), Christ Memorial, Church of the Savior (Coopersville), Church of the Servant (GR), Covenant Presbyterin, First Baptist, First Presbyterian, Fourteenth St. CEC, Grace Episcopal, Graafschap CRC, Holy Family Catholic (Caledonia), Hope Reformed, Maranatha CRC, Pillar Reformed, St. Francis de Sales Catholic, Third Reformed, Trinity Reformed, Zion Lutheran

**Special Thanks** to St. Francis de Sales Church, Rev. Charles D. Brown, pastor, for their gracious hospitality. To GIA Publications Inc., of Chicago for designing and printing this program. <u>www.giamusic.com</u>

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#### **Preludes** (Remain seated)

- Brass Selections
- *All:* 🕮 #731, There Is One Lord (*Alternate English/Spanish. Sing softly under choir verses.*)
- Choir: I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light Setting by Richard Proulx

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

All please rise HYMN: #668, In Christ there Is No East or West

#### **OPENING**

Leader: Let us worship the Triune God.

- *Leader:* God, our Father, you crown your creation with justice and mercy. *All:* **We come to worship you.**
- *Leader:* Jesus Christ, your cross brings new life and justice. *All:* We come to worship you.
- *Leader:* Holy Spirit, you inspire our hearts to act justly. *All:* We come to worship you.
- *Leader:* May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *All:* **And also with you.**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### PRAYERS OF REPENTANCE



\*Refrain is always repeated; descant ad lib. 2nd time only

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1980, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

## Absolution/Assurance of Pardon Sign of Peace

## Hymn

#677, Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

Verses 1 and 2: All in unison Verse 3: Two-part round: Women then men Verse 4: Four-part round High women's voices High men's voices Low women's voices Low men's voices

#### PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

## *All are seated* **Primera lectura** Deuteronomio 15:7-15 (NVI)

## Una lectura del libro de Deuteronomio.

Cuando en alguna de las ciudades de la tierra que el Señor tu Dios te da veas a un hermano hebreo pobre, no endurezcas tu corazón ni le cierres tu mano. Antes bien, tiéndele la mano y préstale generosamente lo que necesite. No des cabida en tu corazón a la perversa idea de que, por acercarse el año séptimo, año del perdón de las deudas, puedes hacerle mala cara a tu hermano hebreo necesitado y no darle nada. De lo contrario, él podrá apelar al Señor contra ti, y tú resultarás convicto de pecado. No seas mezquino, sino generoso, y así el Señor tu Dios bendecirá todos tus trabajos y todo lo que emprendas. Gente pobre en esta tierra, siempre la habrá; por eso te ordeno que seas generoso con tus hermanos hebreos y con los pobres y necesitados de tu tierra.

Si tu hermano hebreo, hombre o mujer, se vende a ti y te sirve durante seis años, en el séptimo año lo dejarás libre. Y cuando lo liberes, no lo despidas con las manos vacías. Abastécelo bien con regalos de tus rebaños, de tus cultivos y de tu lagar. Dale según el Señor tu Dios te haya bendecido. Recuerda que fuiste esclavo en Egipto, y que el Señor tu Dios te dio libertad. Por eso te doy ahora esta orden.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord. *All:* **Thanks be to God.** 

## **Responsorial Psalm**

#965, Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Repeat refrain after the soloist (cantor), and again after each verse.

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#### *A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

*Reader:* Palabra de Dios.

All: Te alabamos, Señor.



All please rise

Music: Alleluia 7; Jacques Berthier, © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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**Gospel Reading** – Luke 4:14-21 *The gospel will be read in English and Spanish.* 

Conclusion All: **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.** 

## HOMILY

**CHORAL ANTHEM** Jesus, Lead the Way – Setting by Richard Proulx

Nicene Creed – All please rise We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

> We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate: he suffered, died, and was buried; on the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, And with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

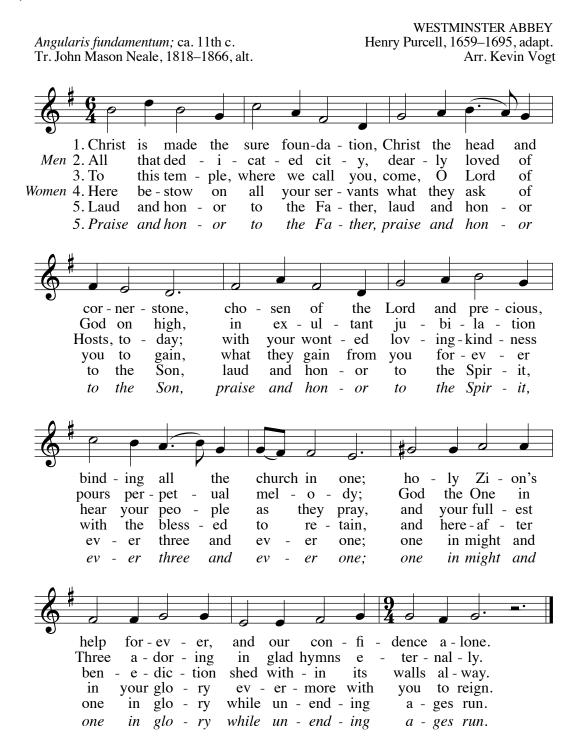
## **Prayers of the People**

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

(O) Todos: Te alabamos, Señor.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.



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Hymn

## Commissioning

Leader: God has told you, brothers and sisters in Christ, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

All: Confident in the power of Christ to forgive and to heal, we go out united under his cross calling for his grace to end injustice in our world and asking for his mercy for the sins that have caused our divisions.

#### Blessing

Leader: May God embrace you with love and make kindness flow out from you. All: Amen.

Leader: May God ignite courage within you and transform you into agents of his justice and peace. All: Amen.

Leader: May God grant you humility and give you perseverance to nurture unity. All: Amen.

Leader: And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All: Amen.

## Hymn/Song

4452 – Go to the World *Verse three is sung by the choir alone*.

## **Brass Postlude**