



BAS Service of the Word for Creation Time

Let My People Seek Their Freedom CP 471

***“From the slave pens of the Delta, from the ghettos on the Nile,
let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile”:
so God spoke from out of Sinai, so God spoke and it was done,
and the people crossed the waters toward the rising of the sun.***

***“From the aging shrines and structures, from the cloister and the aisle,
let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile”:
so the Son of God has spoken, and the storm clouds are unfurled,
for his people must be scattered to be servants in the world.***

***When we murmur on the mountains, for the old Egyptians plains,
when we miss our ancient bondage and the hope, the promise, wanes,
then the rock shall yield its water and the manna fall by night,
and with visions of the future shall we march toward the light.***

***In the maelstrom of the nations, in the journey into space,
in the clash of generations, in the hungering for grace,
in our agony and glory, we are called to newer ways
by the Lord of our tomorrows and the God of earth's todays.***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

We give thanks to you, Lord God, that we are gathered together
on the traditional territory of the Sto:lo, the people of the river.
Guide us with your spirit of reconciliation
as we work to build relationships and tear down stereotypes.

Let us pray. **God of unchangeable power,
when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together
and the host of heaven shouted for joy;
open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to see all things for good,
to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor,
and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.
We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.

God our Creator, we are sorry for the times
when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.
Creator, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Creator, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.
We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Creator, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and take for granted for the world you have made.
Creator, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.
We store up goods for only ourselves, as if there were no God and no heaven.
Creator, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
May the Peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Israel Went out from Egypt CP 227

***Israel went out from Egypt, tremble at the presence of God;
sanctuary found in Judah, tremble at the presence of God.***

***Great seas saw them come and ran away in fright,
tremble at the presence of God.***

***Holy Jordan turned her waters back at the sight,
tremble at the coming of the Lord.***

Alleluia, alleluia! Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia.

***Mountains skipped just like scared rams, so tremble at the presence of God.
Hills were bounding like young lambs, yes, tremble at the presence of God.***

Tell us, great roaring sea, why do you run away?

Tremble at the presence of God.

Holy mountains strong and bold, why must you shake that way?

Tremble at the coming of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia.

***Tremble, O you earth and sky, yes, tremble at the presence of God.
God is strong, how great and high, so tremble at the presence of God,
who has brought cooling rains when days grew hotter,***

tremble at the presence of God,

***Stony hills bursting forth with cooking water,
tremble at the coming of the Lord.***

Alleluia, alleluia! Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia.

Let us pray. **God of deep compassion,
you welcome the weak and free us from the bondage of sin.
Break the cycle of judgement and violence through Jesus our forgiveness,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

1st Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them;
and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.
It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel.
And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night;
one did not come near the other all night.
Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea.
The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night,
and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.
The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground,
the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.
The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them,
all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.
At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud
looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.
He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said,
'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'
Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,
so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians,
upon their chariots and chariot drivers.'
So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,
and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth.
As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea.
The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers,
the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea;
not one of them remained.
But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the
waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.
Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians;
and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.
Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians.
So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.
Listen for God's word. **Our hearts are open.**

Psalm 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
Judah became the sanctuary of the Lord *
and Israel the dominion of God.
The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
You little hills like young sheep?
Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.
Glory to God, Source of All Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

2nd Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith,
but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions.
Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat;
for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.
And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike.
Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.
Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord.
Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God;
while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.
We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
For to this end Christ died and lived again,
so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister?
Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?
For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.
For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.'
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.
Listen for God's word. **Our hearts are open.**

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Then Peter came and said to him,

‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive?
As many as seven times?’

Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared
to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

When he began the reckoning,

one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;

and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold,

together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,

“Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.”

And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out,

came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;

and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.”

Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him,

“Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused;

then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt.

When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed,

and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave!

I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?”

And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt.

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you,

if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Let us confess our faith as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

**He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen**

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Creator God, teach us to see you in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you. Awaken our praise and thankfulness
for everything that you have made.
Give us the grace to perceive that we are connected to everything that is.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God.**

God whom we love, we stand before you with open and humble hearts.
In our imagination, allow us to see and hear and feel
the beautiful expressions of the earth, that speak to each of us -
Mountains, rivers, prairie, oceans, Forest, meadows, trees, flowers.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God.**

God of love, show us our place in this world,
as kin to all the non-human creatures with whom we share the earth.
They came forth from your hand;
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love.
and not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God.**

Saving God, we give thanks for all human beings on the earth,
Created from dust, yet crowned with glory, Those we know and those who are strangers;
Those near to us and those far away; All of us beautiful, all of us flawed.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God.**

God of abundance, we give thanks for the sun, for water, for soil, for air,
On which our lives depend moment by moment.
In silence we are aware of our frailty, our complete dependence
On our beloved Mother Earth who nurtures us and sustains our every breath.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God**

Creator God, we enjoy the abundant fruits of the earth,
Yet, we acknowledge that we in the developed world,
have often wasted the gifts of the earth, taking more than our share,
leaving our sisters and brothers in other places in poverty and need.
Renew our minds and transform us into servants of the earth,
so that her richness and bounty will sustain, not only us,
but generations to come after us.
In gratitude let us pray to the Lord **We give you thanks, O God.**

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking.
Grant our requests as may be best for us.
This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Crashing Waters at Creation CP 42 (tune 500)

***Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath,
first to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.***

***Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,
washing off the chains of bondage channel to a life made new.***

***Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold,
opened to reveal the glory every new and ever old.***

***Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.***

*please remember to send your offering to the church
or consider using the Pre-Authorized Debit system*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**
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
Glory to God whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen**

May God who created the world give you the grace to be wise stewards of the creation.
May God who redeemed the world inspire you to go out as labourers into the harvest.
May God whose breath fills the whole creation help you
to bear the fruits of love, joy and peace
and the blessing of God almighty, Source of All Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CP 565

***Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want not more,
feed me till I want no more.***

***Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow:
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.***

***When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.***

Readings for next Sunday – September 20, 2020

16th Sunday after Pentecost

The Book of Exodus 16:2-15

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Paul's Letter to the Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16