



receiving
gifts
for
ministry

CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF
GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND
TRANSGENDERED PEOPLE
IN THE CHURCH

We are offering the bulletins for the worship services published as a whole in the hope that they, along with the Passports, will become an important part of your daily, personal devotions this week

In order to keep production costs to a minimum we are asking that you bring this booklet with you each time you attend worship.

Thank you

We the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered community of Lancaster Theological Seminary invite you to join us in worship this week as together we all offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to the worship of God.

We come to this week of worship, as indeed we come to every day of our lives, fully aware of the fact that many individuals and denominations do not recognize our worthiness to this calling.

For us, however, this week represents both a vision of an eschatological hope as well as a dream for our day-to-day lives.

Our hope is that wherever you are in your struggle with this issue that you are able to feel free to participate fully in our common vision of the Kingdom of God where there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, only oneness in Christ Jesus. Believing that if we belong to Christ, then we are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The GLBT Community of Lancaster Theological Seminary

LITANY OF UNITY AND VISION

We, as a community created in the image of God, persons of all sexual orientations, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Straight, believe in a sacred power which is above, below, in, and around us – a divine spirit that we call by many names and experience in many ways – that empowers and heals – that calls us forth.

We believe in our creativity.

Making and transforming beauty out of words and notes, images and colors, lines and pictures – and silence.

We believe in doing justice.

Justice that compels and empowers us to risk whatever we must risk to create a climate in which all people can be who they are.

We believe in our dreams.

We experience the world as it is – in both its ugliness and beauty – and we see what it can become.

We believe in peace,

a peace that is based on openness, honesty, and compassion.

We believe in hope.

We expect changes to continue to occur in our world.

We rely on our courage to continue to bring about these changes.

We believe in love,

a passionate love within and around us that laughs and cries – challenges and comforts – a healing love that perseveres.

We believe in our potential.

We know who we are – painful as that may be sometimes – yet we continue to call each other to become more of who we are.

We believe in celebrating.

We remember and we commemorate. We create rituals. We play and dance and sing and love well.

We believe in our diversity.

We affirm our many shapes and sizes – colors and traditions – emotions and thoughts – differences and similarities.

We believe in life.

Life that wells up within and flows out of us like a streaming fountain.

We believe that we are good and holy – a sacred part of all creation.

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER SERVICE
MONDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2000 **SANTEE CHAPEL**

THEME:

As the last of the brightly colored leaves drop from the trees and fall turns into winter, the world around us is settling into a deep sleep. Many of the animals we once saw scurrying about have disappeared from the landscape and lie nestled in burrows and dens. The days shorten, and a part of each one of us responds to this ancient cycle in the same way, as we discover that our focus turns inward as well; turning towards our dreams and visioning. In this time of dark, cold nights and gray days we especially notice the glow of candlelight through the chapel door, inviting us in to the warmth of communion with God through prayer. Join us this morning in the warmth of this time of prayer; a time of initiation and preparation for the coming week.

RECEIVING THE GIFT

The gift that we unwrap today is the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. It initiates the cycle of worship for the coming week. We come to this service today in order to prepare for the coming week, yet in order to do so we look to the past. In this act we once again look to the long established history and traditions of the past, which through practice and experience, form the rock and cornerstone of our strength to move into the ever-unfolding future.

WORDS OF WORSHIP

From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my Name shall be great among the Gentiles, and in every place incense shall be offered unto my Name.

Malachi 1:11

Incense lit with a unison prayer for the lighting of incense.

**All: O Divine Guest within,
all is ready for our time of prayer.
We now prepare what is the most important,
the shrine of our hearts.**

**May this incense, which we now enkindle
be a smoking sacrament of our desire
for the thoughts, words, and actions
of this time of prayer
to become sacred gestures on fire with a love for you.**

**As this incense arises on high,
so may our prayers, empty of ourselves and our needs,
rise effortlessly in silent salutation to you,
that it might be prayer for all the world. Amen.**

PRONOUNCEMENT

The Lord is in this holy temple; let all of the earth keep silence before the Lord.
Habakkuk 2:20

PREPARATION

Let us enter into a time of silent preparation

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, we remember with praise and gratitude the covenants with our fathers and mothers, the promise of the gospel to each of us and as a light to the nations. We confess that too quickly and too easily we have wrapped your message in our message and substituted our dreams for your will. We confess that we have claimed to be holy, only to discover our brokenness; that we have claimed to be loving, only to discover our bias. In the presence of your holiness that wills to make us whole, and your love that wills to recreate us, hear our prayers and revive us again.

A time for silent reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Read responsively

O: O Lord, open thou our lips.

P: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

All: Glory to God our creator, Christ our redeemer, and to the Holy Spirit our sustainer: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

O: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come let us adore God.

*VENITE

Read responsively

O: O come, let us sing unto the Lord;

P: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

O: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving,

P: and show ourselves glad with psalms.

O: For the Lord is a great God,

P: and a great King above all gods.

O: In God's hand are all the corners of the earth,

P: and the strength of the hills is God's also.

O: The sea is God's and God made it,

P: and God's hands prepared the dry land.

O: O, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

P: let the whole earth stand in awe of God.

O: For God cometh, for God cometh to judge the earth,

All: and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with truth.

PSALM

Psalm 9

THE LESSONS

1 Kings 19:11-13

How Good to Center Down

Howard Thurman

THE CANTICLE

O let the earth bless the Lord;
O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

O ye wells, bless ye the Lord;
O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord;
O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord;
O ye children of humankind, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

THE PRAYERS; LIGHTING THE CANDLES

A LITANY OF UNITY AND VISION

Printed on page 2 of the Bulletin

Read responsively

CLOSING PRAYER WITH A FINAL LIGHTING OF INCENSE

Unison

May the light clouds of incense smoke that softly billow up to you
soften my heart and lighten my spirit
in my sacred journey home to you.

May this incense prayer arising to you
teach us to rise beyond time and space
and rest only in you.

As this incense burns before us,
so may every letter of every word of our prayer burn with the fire of our love for
you.

Come, Cosmic Lover, and set our hearts aflame.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

A SERVICE OF TESTIMONY AND SONG
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2000 **SANTEE CHAPEL**

THEME:

Divine Beloved, how richly you have seeded your creation with the mystery of life. You are not a God of restraint, for you allow the sun to shine on good and bad alike. Daily you pour forth a torrent of beauty for all on this earth. With a silent thunderous roar the sun is once again visible. The moon has reflected its light like a mirror this past night. Make of our hearts, O God, a new mystic moon to reflect your splendor and your lack of restraint as now we enter this time of testimony and song, which we dedicate to you.

RECEIVING THE GIFT

The gifts that we unwrap today are dancing shoes and recorder, which represent the movement of every life between joy and pain. God has given us the church where we find unity in the telling and retelling of the stories, and in singing the songs, of our common faith and our common human experience. But in our telling we notice a diversity of experiences within our unity. We come to understand that not all who gather tell the same story or sing the same song. Therefore, help us today, O God, as we gather in your presence to move between the poles of joy and unity, and of diversity and pain as our act of corporate worship.

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE IN DANCE

Shannon Moore

*Miss Moore is the daughter of Dr. Barbara Moore,
Pastor and Outreach Minister of God's Amazing Grace Fellowship*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(Read Responsively)*

The Litany of Unity and Vision

Printed on page 2 of the bulletin.

***HYMN**

#391 NCH

“God of Rainbow”

PSALM *(Read Responsively)*

Psalm 139

pg. 715 NCH

GOSPEL READING

Mark 12:38-44

A TIME OF TESTIMONY

Opening song: *Sung by David Glasgow; Accompaniment Pat Huffman Matz*

"I will Give You Peace." *Dawn and Tom Thomas Yarbrough*

Sharing our Stories

Closing song: *Sung by David Glasgow; Accompaniment Pat Huffman Matz*

"Here Right Now" *David Glasow*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***CLOSING HYMN**

"God Will Make a Way"

Don Moen

God will make a way where there seems to be no way.

God works in ways we cannot see; God will make a way for me.

God will be my guide, walking closely by my side

with love and strength for each new day.

God will make a way. God will make a way.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

THE RITE OF REMEMBRANCE

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2000

SANTEE CHAPEL

THEME:

I pause, my God, in the midst of this November day, along the busy roadside of my life, to remember you and your love for me. Calm my body and my heart. Come and sit here beside me as I pray now in silence.

I lift up my heart to you, in gratitude for the gift of memories, that marvelous ability you have hidden deep within us. I recall in thanksgiving not only such famous deeds of salvation as the liberation of Israel from slavery in Egypt and the resurrection of your Son Jesus from the dead, but also the many deeds of love you have shown to me, your servant.

I was called to be a minister of memory, to remember how your son Jesus Christ gave his body and blood, his very life, that the earth and all that lives might be healed of sin and separation.

I now remember how at that ritual Passover Meal your Son did something new. With reverence I bow and pray in silence before this sacred Memory, which holds within it such great mystery and even greater presence.

RECEIVING THE GIFT:

This morning we receive the gifts of the Cup and the Bread, the central gifts of our common faith. Returning once again to the place where we realize that our differences are our strengths. In this place let us join ourselves in an act of Holy Communion, with the body of our risen savior Jesus Christ. Let us enter into holy communion with all who are part of Christ's holy body and share life on this planet with us now, acknowledging with reverence and faith, that within His re-created body, risen, and one with you, are all the peoples of this earth, women and men of all races, of all religions, political beliefs and sexual orientations. Enter now into an awareness that binds us all together in a holy communion.

PRELUDE

*OPENING HYMN

#11 NCH

"Bring Many Names"

CALL TO WORSHIP (Read Responsively)

The Litany of Unity and Vision

Printed on page 2 of the bulletin.

*HYMN

#438 NCH

"When Peace Like a River"

COMMUNITY PRAYER

ANTHEM

Sung by David Glasgow

"My Father's Heart"

Chris Eaton

SERMON

"Personal Encounter with Truth."

Roberta Kreider

A reflection on John 9:1-3 and 19b-41

SERMON RESPONSE

Choir

"We Limit Not the Truth"

George Rawson

COMMUNION SERVICE

Celebrants: Rev. Debbie Coggin & Rev. Steve Filizzi

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION...The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all who seek God's love. Today's celebration of the sacrament will be done in one of the traditions of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. You will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and cup from one of several serving stations at the front of the chapel. It is our custom to dip the bread into the cup and offer it to you with personal prayer for God's blessing. If you are uncomfortable with the personal prayer, simply indicate that to your server and you may return to your seat for silent prayer and meditation. In deference to those who are in recovery it is our custom to use grape juice at all of the stations

PREPARATION

Musical Response

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"

Open our eyes Lord,

we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch Him,

And say that we love Him.

RECEIVING THE GIFT

INVITATION

One: God be with you

All: And also with You

One: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to God

One: Let us give God thanks

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise

HYMN OF PRAISE

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF FAITH

All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again

CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS WITH PRAYER

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION

- #283 NCH "Spirit of the Living God"
- #292 NCH "Breathe on Me Breath of God"
- #330 NCH "Let Us Break Bread Together"
- #327 NCH "Jesus Loves Me"

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

"Holy Ground"

Geron Davis

We are standing on holy ground
and I know that there are angels all around
let us praise Jesus now.

We are standing in God's presence on holy ground.

CLOSING ANTHEM

Choir

"Joyful, Joyful"

A version from, "Sister Act"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2000 SANTEE CHAPEL

THEME

As the hectic pace of another week comes to an end, and our lives once more slow down, how can we help but be reminded of the great cycles of the earth. The progression of the week, like the progression of the earth through the seasons, have met as one on this Friday morning and our hearts and minds are drawn back to the season of winter in the stillness. Conscious once again of the cold, and the shortness of the days; conscious of the leafless trees and the absence of the sounds of birds and the scurrying of small animals- we pause asking - where is hope, will spring return?

Turning inward we discover the richness of the experiences of this past week buried deep within us. Each of these experiences in some way points to the future and the return of new growth upon the earth. Each is its own vision of the future; just as the earth now holds the seeds of the trees deep in her womb that will indeed produce a new season in their time.

Turning out, again we notice the glow of candlelight through the chapel door, inviting us in to the warmth of the eternal promises of God through prayer. Join us this morning in the warmth of this time of prayer; a time of nurturing the seeds of promise and vision.

RECEIVING THE GIFT

At the heart of all of the worship services this week has been our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; who held on to God's greater vision, God's ultimate plan, and God's enduring hope for all humankind.

Each of you have participated faithfully throughout the week in both worship and the various events on campus, giving ear and heart to our vision and hope for the future; for this we are both humbled and grateful.

The gift today is a sign of our gratitude for your gifts to us; your gifts of participation and celebration. May this gift become a symbol of all we collectively hope for, for the ever-unfolding Church of Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF WORSHIP

Watch for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he (*sic*) come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mark 13:35,36

Incense lit with a unison prayer for the lighting of incense.

**All: O Divine Guest within,
 all is ready for our time of prayer.
 We now prepare what is the most important,
 the shrine of our hearts.**

May this incense, which we now enkindle
be a smoking sacrament of our desire
for the thoughts, words, and actions
of this time of prayer
to become sacred gestures on fire with a love for you.

As this incense arises on high,
so may our prayers, empty of ourselves and our needs,
rise effortlessly in silent salutation to you,
that it might be prayer for all the world. Amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT

The Lord is in this holy temple; let all of the earth keep silent.
Habakkuk 2:20

PREPARATION

Let us enter into a time of silent preparation

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, we remember with praise and gratitude the covenants with our fathers and mothers, the promise of the gospel to each of us and as a light to the nations. We confess that too quickly and too easily we have wrapped your message in our message and substituted our dreams for your will. We confess that we have claimed to be holy, only to discover our brokenness; that we have claimed to be loving, only to discover our bias. In the presence of your holiness that wills to make us whole, and your love that wills to recreate us, hear our prayers and revive us again.

A time for silent reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Read in Unison

Almighty God has mercy on us, forgives us of all of our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ. God strengthens us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit is keeping us in eternal life. Amen.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Read responsively

O: O Lord, open thou our lips.

P: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

O: Our King and Savior now draws near: come let us adore our Savior and King.

Read responsively

VENITE

O: O come, let us sing unto the Lord;
P: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
O: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving,
P: and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.
O: For the Lord is a great God,
P: and a great King above all gods.
O: In God's hand are the caverns of the earth,
P: and the heights of the hills are God's also.
O: The sea is God's and God made it,
P: and God's hands have molded the dry land.
O: Come let us bow down and bend the knee
P: and kneel before the Lord our maker.
O: For this is our God
P: and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's flock.
All: O, that today we would hearken to God's voice.

PSALM

Psalm 101: 1,2,3

THE LESSONS

Hebrews 11:1-16

Keep Alive the Dream in the Heart

Howard Thurman

THE DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS

THE CANTICLE

O let the earth bless the Lord;
O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

O ye wells, bless ye the Lord;
O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord;
O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord;
O ye children of humankind, bless ye the Lord;
praise the Lord and magnify God forever.

THE PRAYERS; EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES

A LITANY OF UNITY AND VISION

Printed on page 2 of the Bulletin

Read responsively

CLOSING PRAYER WITH A FINAL LIGHTING OF INCENSE

Unison

May the light clouds of incense smoke that softly billow up to you
soften my heart and lighten my spirit
in my sacred journey home to you.

May this incense prayer arising to you
teach us to rise beyond time and space
and rest only in you.

As this incense burns before us,
so may every letter of every word of our prayer burn with the fire of our love for
you.

Come, Cosmic Lover, and set our hearts aflame.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

WORSHIP RESOURCES USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE LITURGIES

The Book of Common Prayer; The Episcopal Church

Collins, Owen, The Daily Book of Common Prayer

Drescher, John M., Invocations and Benedictions, for the Revised Common Lectionary

Hays, Edward, Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim

Mark, Arlene M., Words for Worship

Thurman, Howard, Meditations of the Heart

Celebration of the Sacrament; One of the traditions of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

***WE WISH TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN
THE WORSHIP SERVICES THIS WEEK.***

GUEST WORSHIP LEADERS

Roberta Kreider
Rev. Debbie Coggin
Rev. Steve Filizi

PARTICIPANTS

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Shannon Moore
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Dr. Sally Brown

