

Worship in the Spirit of Justice
July 3, 2005/ Sheridan Circle

Prelude/ Singing: Jodi McLaren

Song: Come O Fount (Robert Robinson, rev.)

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune
my heart to sing your 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 redeeming love.

Here we sing to God in heaven, you
have brought us to this place./ And we
know that by your mercy, we will all
complete the race./ Jesus sought me when a
stranger, wandering far away from God./ He
to rescue us from danger, bought us with his
precious blood.

Oh to grace how great a debtor daily
I'm constrained to be./ Let your goodness
like a fetter bind my wandering 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, with your Spirit from
above.

Welcome/Call to Worship: Duane Shank

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts! **We lift up our hearts**
to the Lord! It is a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere, to give thanks and
praise to you, Father Almighty, Maker of
heaven and earth.

Almighty and ever-living God, to you all
hearts are open, all desires known, and
from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the
thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration
of your Holy Spirit, that we may

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify
your holy name, through Christ our

Lord. Amen. Let us now give a sign of our
unity and love by exchanging words of
peace with one another.

SONG: Song: Make Me An Instrument

Lord, make me an instrument of
your peace! (2x)

Where there is hatred, let me sow
love/Where there is injury, let me sow
pardon/ Where there is doubt, let me sow
faith, O Lord!

Where there's despair, let me sow faith/
Where there is darkness, let me sow light/
Where there is sadness, let me sow joy, O
Lord!

O Divine Master, grant that I may/ Seek
less to be consoled, more to console/ Less
to be understood, more to understand/ Less
to be loved, and more to love, O Lord!

For it is in giving, that we receive/ It is in
in pardoning, that we are pardoned/ It is in
dying, we're born to life eternal.

Telling the Truth/Prayer:

Sudanese Guest

Tom Austin

Readings (Please read sections in bold.)

READING 1. Do not fret because of the
wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,
for they will soon fade like the grass, and
wither like the green herb.

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you
will live in the land, and enjoy security.

Take delight in the LORD, and he will
give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in

him, and he will act.

He will make your vindication shine like
the light, and the justice of your cause like
the noonday. Be still before the LORD, and
wait patiently for him ... Yet a little while,
and the wicked will be no more; though you
look diligently for their place, they will not
be there. But the meek shall inherit the
land, and delight in abundant prosperity.

... **Our steps are made firm by the**
LORD, when he delights in our way;
though we stumble, we shall not fall
headlong, for the LORD holds us by the
hand... Depart from evil, and do good; so
you shall abide for ever.... For the LORD
loves justice; he will not forsake his
faithful ones. (Psalm 37, selected)

READING 2. While we were still weak, at
the right time, Christ died for the
ungodly.

Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a
righteous person – though perhaps for a
good person someone might actually dare to
die.

But God proves his love for us in this:
that while we were still sinners, Christ
died for us. (Romans 5:6-8)

Who shall separate us from the love of
Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or
persecution or famine or nakedness or
danger or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through the One who loved
us.

For I am convinced that neither death
nor life, neither angels nor demons,
neither the present nor the future, nor

any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 8:35, 37-39)

Doxology

Praise God who loves the powerless,
Who stands against those who oppress,
Praise God who is holy and just, the
Faithful One in whom we trust.

Confession: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Sermon: Rev. Richard Cizik

Offering: All proceeds will go to humanitarian efforts in Darfur through World Vision and World Relief. Please make checks payable to *Worship in the Spirit of Justice*.

Song: May Your Kingdom Come

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah/
May your kingdom come.*

May your kingdom come./ May it liberate/ Every prisoner/ Of greed and hate./ May it fill our hearts/ With love for you./ For our neighbors and/ For our enemies too.

May your kingdom come/May it end all war/ And the pain and grief/Of the oppressed and poor./ May all violence be/Finally put away./ May the streets be safe/So the children may play.

May your kingdom come/So the rivers flow/ Clean and clear/As the breezes blow./ May we humans save/Rather than destroy/ So all creatures thrive/Free in health and joy.

May your kingdom come/May all knees bow/ To the king who was/will be and is now./ May your justice roll/As the rivers run./ May death give way/To resurrection!

Closing Prayer:

We thank You, Master and Lover of mankind, King of the ages and giver of all good things, for destroying the dividing wall of enmity and granting peace to those who seek your mercy. **We appeal to You to awaken the longing for a peaceful life in all those who are filled with hatred for their neighbors, thinking especially of those at war or preparing for war.** Grant peace to your servants. Implant in them the reverence of You and confirm in them love one for another. **Extinguish every dispute and banish all temptations to disagreement.** For You are our peace and to You we ascribe glory: **to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.** We pray, Lord our God, for all those who suffer from acts of war, especially for the victims and all those in the struggle in Darfur, Sudan.
We pray for your peace and your mercy in the midst of the great suffering that

people are now inflicting on each other. Accept the prayers of your Church, so that by your goodness peace may return to all peoples. Hear us and have mercy on us.
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Amen. (Orthodox Peace Fellowship)

News/Benediction

Closing Song: With Kindness

Christ has no body here but ours,/ No hands, no feet, here on earth but ours./ Ours are the eyes through which He looks/ On this world/ With kindness.

Ours are the hands through which he works./ Ours are the feet on which he moves./ Ours are the voices through which he speaks/ To this world/ With kindness.

Through our touch, our smile, our listening ear,/ Embodied in us, Jesus is living here.

Let us go now,/ Filled with the Spirit./ Into this world/ With kindness.

*Please spread the word on
Worship in the Spirit of Justice.*

Check out worship4justice.org
for more information and directions to next

week's site near the White House:

LaFayette Park (16th and H St. NW)

We'll see you there next week for our final event!