

CCTP Order of Service

28 January 2024

Preparation for Lent 1 (The Publican)

[Dinner begins with “As We Gather” and open-prayer.]

1. Entrance

[Singing] Psalm 134

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the Lord!**

The Lord bless you,
He who made heaven and earth!

Songs.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,
Who are in all places and fill all things,
Treasury of Good and Giver of Life:

Come and abide in us.
Cleanse us from every stain
and save our souls, O Good One.

2. Purgation

There are only three Sundays until Great Lent.

Exhortation to Repentance

Brothers and sisters,
let us not pray like the Pharisee:
for he who exalts himself will be humbled.
Let us humble ourselves before God,
and with fasting cry aloud as did the Publican:
O God, be merciful to me, a sinner! (3x)

[Silence for examination.]

Open to Me + Psalm 51

Open to me the gates of repentance, O Giver of Life;
for I seek Your holy temple,
bearing the defiled temple of my body.
Cleanse it, You who are compassionate,
by Your merciful love.
As I ponder the multitude of evil I have done,
I tremble for the day of judgment.

But like David, I trust Your compassionate mercy,
and cry to You:

**Have mercy on me, O God,
according to Your merciful love;
according to Your great compassion,
blot out my transgressions.**

Prayers of Repentance of the Publican¹

The Pharisee, overcome with vainglory,
and the Publican, bowed down in repentance,
approached You, the only Master.

The one boasted and was deprived of blessings,
while the other kept silent and received grace.

Confirm me, O Christ God,
in these cries of sorrow,
for You are the Lover of mankind:

**Wash me completely from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

My eyes are weighed down by my transgressions,
and I cannot raise them to see the height of heaven.
But receive me O Savior, for like the Publican I repent:

**Create a pure heart for me, O God;
renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Let us flee from the wicked boasting of the Pharisee,
and learn the noble humility of the Publican,
that we may be exalted and cry aloud with him to God:

¹ From the Lenten Triodion, the Sunday of the Publican.

**Do not cast me away from Your presence;
take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

O Lord, You have condemned the Pharisee
who justified himself by boasting of his works,
and You have justified the Publican who humbled himself
and with cries of sorrow begged for mercy.
For You reject proud thoughts,
but do not despise a contrite heart.
Therefore, humbled we fall down before You
who have suffered for our sake, praying:

**Restore in me the joy of Your salvation;
sustain in me a willing spirit.**

3. Illumination²

[Standing] The Blessing

Let us stand, for it is time for the Lord to act.
Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

[A woman places Communion on the table and lights the candles.]

[Singing] Epiphany Hymn + Hymn of the Publican

The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

² Or "Ascension," for his is where we ascend and enter into the heavenly realm. The candle symbolizes this entrance and our offering of thanksgiving is our gift.

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

And let us learn humility from the Publican's tears!

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

Let us cry to our Savior:

Have mercy on us, only merciful One!

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

[Singing]

O Gladsome Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing Your praises, O God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times
to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Psalm 90. A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

O Lord, You have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

Before the mountains were born,
or the earth or the world are brought forth,

You are God, from age to age.

You turn man back to dust,
and say, "Return, O children of Adam."

To Your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.

In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades.

Indeed, we are consumed by Your anger;
we are struck with terror at Your fury.

You have set our guilt before You,
our secret sins in the light of Your face.

All our days pass away in Your anger.
Our years are consumed like a sigh.

Seventy years is the span of our days,
or eighty if we are strong.

And most of these are toil and pain.
They pass swiftly and we are gone.

Who understands the power of Your anger?
Your fury matches the fear of Your.

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.

Turn back, O Lord! How long?

Show pity to Your servants.

At dawn, fill us with Your merciful love;

we shall exult and rejoice all our days.

Give us joy for the days of our affliction,

for the years when we looked upon evil.

Let Your deed be seen by Your servants,

and Your glorious power by their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us;

give success to the work of our hands.

O give success to the work of our hands.

[Singing]

The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

Luke 18:10-14

Hymn of the Publican

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!
And learn humility from the Publican's tears!

Let us cry to our Savior:

Have mercy on us, only merciful One!

[Standing] The Creed: Colossians 1:15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.

For by Him all things were created,

in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities —
all things were created through Him and for Him.
He is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church.
He is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything He might be preeminent.
For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of His cross. Amen.

Greeting: The light of Christ is upon us! Let us greet one another.

Sermon.

4. Communion

[Singing]

You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father. (2x)
Lord have mercy! Christ have mercy! (2x)

Prayers.

[Standing + Singing] The Offering: Psalm 141

I have called to You, O Lord.
Hear me Lord!

O make haste to help me, Lord.

Hear me Lord!

Hear my voice; I cry to You.

Hear me Lord!

**Let my prayer be as incense before You,
the raising of my hands like the evening offering.**

The Lord's Prayer

Thank You, Most High God, that through Christ we may call You our Father,
and pray as one:

Our Father...

Thanksgiving for the Cup [Raising the Cup]

We give You thanks, our Father,
for the Holy Vine of Your servant David
which You revealed to us through Your servant Jesus —
the True Vine, in whom we bear fruit.
To You be glory forever!

Thanksgiving for the Bread [Raising the Bread]

We give You thanks, our Father,
for the life and knowledge
which You revealed to us through Your servant Jesus —

the Bread of Life, given for the life of the world.

To You be glory forever!

[The Bread is broken.]

Just as this broken bread was scattered over the hills as grain
and has been gathered together and made one;
so may Your church be gathered together
from the ends of the earth into Your kingdom.

Gather us into Your kingdom. Amen.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest."

[Congregation receives and partakes in Holy Communion during the song.³]

Thanksgiving for Communion

We give You thanks, our Father,
for You have fed us with the life of Christ.

May we be healed, body and soul;
made us partakers of Your divine nature;
and rescued from the corruption of sin.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
for His mercy endures forever!

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
for His mercy endures forever!

³ A blessing may be said over each recipient as the bread is received.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
for His mercy endures forever!

5. Benediction

[Singing] Epiphany Hymn + Hymn of the Publican

The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

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whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

And let us learn humility from the Publican's tears!

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

Let us cry to our Savior:

Have mercy on us, only merciful One!

**The Lord is my light and my Savior,
whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?**

The Mystery of Faith

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Maranatha!

Announcements:

- Progressive House Blessing
- (Last-Sunday Potlucks)

- Prayer: Sunday, 4pm
- Home fellowships
- Agape Box

[Standing and Singing] The Benediction⁴

The Lord bless thee...

⁴ “God’s presence is never neutral; the result of engaging him must ever be either blessing or judgment. Meeting with God through the way he has opened leads to benediction, while approaching YHWH through a manner he himself has not ordained results in judgment. One reason why this is so is because the unclean cannot come into contact with the holy without being destroyed.” (L. Michael Morales, *Who Shall Ascend the Mountain of the Lord?: A Biblical Theology of the Book of Leviticus*, 140.)