Pride Liturgy

Celebrating the Blessing
of God's Love in Our Lives

7:00 p.m.  June 26, 2003

Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Louis

Welcome

Hymn  O for a world

O for a world where everyone
respects each other's way,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.

We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

words by Miriam Therese Winter

The Word of God

Celebrant  Blessed be the one Holy and living God
People    Blessed be God forever.
Celebrant  Blessed be the Creator of heaven and earth
People    Blessed be God forever
Celebrant  Blessed be the Christ, child of the Holy One
People    Blessed be God forever
Celebrant  Blessed be the Spirit, enlightening all life
People    Blessed be God forever

Celebrant  The Lord be with you.
People    And also with you.
Celebrant  Let us pray
The Celebrant now says the Collect

O Hidden, Eternal, and Self-giving God, who became human for our salvation:
Open our minds, liberate our hearts, and strengthen our souls,
that we may live into the fullness of your desires for us;
in the name of the Creator, the Word, and the Spirit. Amen.

First reading
Isaiah 52:7-10

Hymn  O God of gentle strength  From Wonder, Love, and Praise

Second reading  Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

Gospel  Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon  The Rev. Susan Nanny
An Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who is love,  
and who has given the earth to all people.
We believe in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us,  
and to free us from all forms of oppression.
We believe in the Spirit of God,  
who works in and through all who are turned towards the truth.
We believe in the community of faith,  
which is called to be at the service of all people.
We believe in God’s power to transform and transfigure,  
fulfilling the promise of a new heaven and a new earth  
where justice and peace will flourish.  Amen.

Prayers of the People

In peace and in faith, let us offer our prayers, saying, "Hear us, O Christ."

Guide and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten all your people in the Church, especially Frank our Presiding Bishop and Wayne our Bishop, with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word of grace and love.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and especially for those who work for your justice with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people, both in your Church and in our communities.  We give our thanks this day for celebrating who we are, people created in the image of God as straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered.  We offer our own thanksgivings ________.  May we be strengthened in our witness in being faithful to your gospel.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Give your wisdom to George, the President of the United States and his advisors, the leaders of the United Nations, and for all who work for peace and an end to hate motivated violence.  For Bob the Governor of Missouri, and Francis, the mayor of St. Louis that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and for the common good and justice of all people.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the abused and the bereaved.  We pray also for those who suffer under armed struggles throughout the world, and those who are oppressed.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially those with HIV/AIDS and those who care for them; are there others? ________.  Provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.  
Hear us, O Christ.

Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.  
Hear us, O Christ.
Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Hear us as we remember those who have died (especially ________), and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

The Celebrant concludes with the following prayer

Holy Wisdom, in your loving kindness you created and restored us when we were lost; hear our prayers and inspire us with your truth, that we may love you with our whole minds and run to you with open hearts, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Peace

*Celebrant*  The peace of the Lord be always with you
*People*  And also with you.

*We now greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

The Holy Communion

**Hymn:** We are marching in the light of God

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are walking, walking
We are walking, walking
We are walking in the light of God

We are singing in the light of God . . .

We are loving in the light of God . . .

The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant*  The Lord is here.
*People*  God's spirit is with us.
*Celebrant*  Lift your hearts to heaven.
*People*  Where Christ in glory reigns
*Celebrant*  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
*People*  It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The celebrant continues

It is right to give you thanks and praise most gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ. Holy God, in the beginning of creation you watered the earth that man and woman might have food and drink. You gave bread to your servant Sarah to strengthen her family on their journey, and wine to make them glad. You called Moses to lead his people out from slavery in Egypt, and fed them with manna in the wilderness; You gave the Holy Family their daily bread to share. And here at your table you offer us bread and wine to nourish us as your sons and daughters.
And so, with all our sisters and brothers, with the company of saints and angels, and with all those we love both living and dead, we join the song of unending praise:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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.

The Celebrant continues

Among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body which is given for you".
In the same way he took wine, and having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God".

So now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this wine, the ordinary things of the world through which God will bless us; and as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also celebrate God's goodness:

Celebrant and People

Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The Celebrant continues

Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given, and human hands have made. In the sharing of this bread, may we know your resurrection presence; Make us one with Christ and thus one with each other. Hear us now, O God, and breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine. May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life, healing, renewing, and making us whole, that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring in the world.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, all glory be yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of Silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

The celebrant invites the People to communion, saying

The Body of Christ is broken for the life of the world.
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The bread and wine are now shared.
All are welcome at God’s table.

Hymns during communion

Hymn 711 Seek ye first the kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
Ask, and it shall be given unto you,
and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you; Alleluia!
opened unto you; Alleluia!

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Postcommunion Prayer

All pray together

O God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation:
you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing
**Hymn**  He's got the whole world

He's got the whole world in his hand  
He's got you and me sister, in his hand  
He's got you and me brother, in his hand  
He's got everybody here, in his hand

**The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ,

*People*  Thanks be to God

Please join us in the South Parish Hall for refreshments following the service.

Thanks to all our friends and supporters:

- **The OASIS Missouri:**  Christ Church Cathedral; St. Mark’s, St. Louis;  
  Transfiguration, Lake St. Louis; Trinity, St. Louis
- **The Rev. Susan Nanny**  Christ Church Cathedral
- **The Rev. Jason Samuel**  Church of the Transfiguration, Lake St. Louis
- **The Rev. Anne Kelsey**  Trinity Episcopal Church
- **Readers**  Anne Baker, Robert Lewis
- **Don Massey**  Organist
- **James Nacy**  Cello
- **Rip van Winkle**  Reception

And for the support from the congregation of Trinity Episcopal Church.

The collect is taken from *Women's Uncommon Prayers*, and was written by the Rev. Elizabeth Geitz for the first Sunday in Advent. The Eucharistic Prayer comes from the Iona Community in Scotland, and has been adapted for American usage.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for all Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered persons
in the life of the church and the world.