

DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA



LITURGY OF LAMENT LONGING & HOPE

I FEEL MY BOOTS
TRYING TO LEAVE THE GROUND,
I FEEL MY HEART
PUMPING HARD. I WANT
TO THINK AGAIN OF DANGEROUS AND NOBLE
THINGS.

I WANT TO BE LIGHT AND FROLICSOME.
I WANT TO BE IMPROBABLE BEAUTIFUL AND
AFRAID OF NOTHING,
AS THOUGH I HAD WINGS.

MARY OLIVER
STARLINGS IN WINTER

September 12, 2021

A Letter from Our Bishops



THE BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

August 22, 2012

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We write to introduce and invite you to share in a creative, expressive and deeply faithful liturgical offering for the season we find ourselves in as the fall approaches. A Liturgy of Lament, Longing and Hope is the gift of the Swindell Committee to our diocesan family as we continue to navigate the pandemic and find that the path forward is neither direct nor always clear. Especially as we begin a new school year and program year, we feel the shock and disappointment of the most recent spike in cases and hospitalizations.

This liturgy is designed to help us, and the communities of faith we serve, to remember and to be touched by the promises that remain constant even in times of uncertainty and loss: the loving presence of God, the safe space to express our hurt and grief and frustration, the gift we have been given in one another, and the opportunities and possibilities that emerge even in times of challenge, struggle and loss.

This liturgy helps us to experience the ways God's love is holding us, Jesus is walking with us and the Holy Spirit is moving among us, even as our long journey continues with its twists and turns.

This liturgical offering will be featured on Sunday, September 12, as our diocesan-wide worship service. In the weeks that follow, we invite you to offer this liturgy in your own congregation on a Sunday morning or evening, or another time you decide on, for your community. This gift is offered with the hope that it will bring comfort, nurturing the resilience embedded in our faith, and provide space for lament, and healing, and renewal. Again we are deeply grateful to the members of the Swindell Committee for this offering of grace and love, and we commend it to you for your congregation.

Blessings and peace, and in thanksgiving for the communion that we share as beloved community,

+ Samuel S. Rodman

The Rt. Rev. Samuel S. Rodman
Bishop, Diocese of North Carolina

+ Anne E. Hodges-Copple

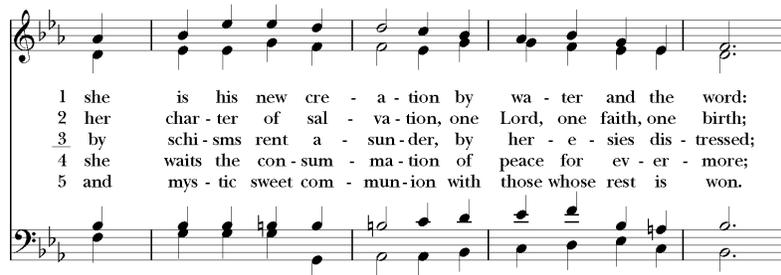
The Rt. Rev. Anne E. Hodges-Copple
Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of North Carolina

An Order of Holy Eucharist

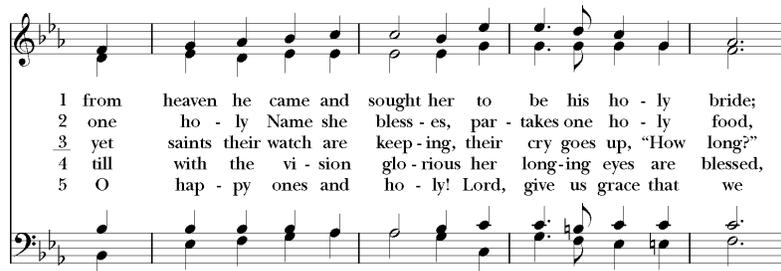
The Hymnal 1982 - #525 The Church's one foundation



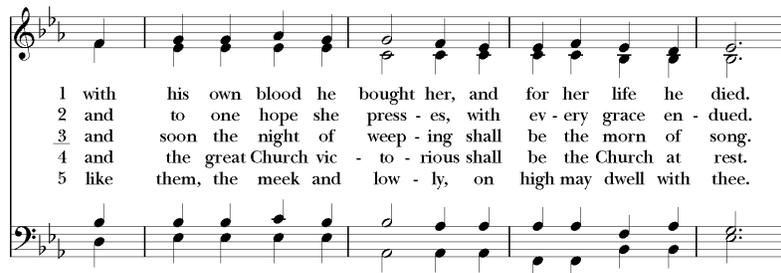
1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,



1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
 5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900) Music: *Aurelia*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Opening Acclamation: Blessed be our God.
 Forever and ever. Amen.

Gathering Prayer: Lord God, the maker and redeemer of all,
 as we come before you in grief and praise this day,
 comfort us with your presence, make us attentive to your
 voice, and sustain us with the hope of your kingdom;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Song of Lamentation

Lamentations 1:12,16; 3:19,22-24,26

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? *
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
Which was brought upon me, *
inflicted by God's fierce anger.
For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears, *
for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage.
Remember my affliction and my bitterness, *
wormwood and gall!
The steadfast love of God never ceases, *
God's mercies never end.
They are new every morning; *
great is your faithfulness.
"God is my portion," says my soul, *
"therefore will I hope in God."
It is good that we should wait quietly *
for the coming of God's salvation.

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick.
Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land:
"Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?"
"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."
For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?
O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.”
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

New Testament Lesson

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Lift Every Voice and Sing II - #203 There is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed

whole; There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. **Fine**

1. Some - times I feel dis-cour-aged, And think my work's in vain, But
2. If you can-not preach like Pet - er, If you can-not preach like Paul, You can
3. Don't ev - er be dis-cour-aged For Je - sus is your friend, And

1. then the ho - ly spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
2. tell the love of Je - sus, And say He died for all.
3. if you lack for know-ledge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend. **D.C.**

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you Lord Christ.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Christ.

Response to the Word

1st Reflection: **Lament**

In early days of God's covenant with his people, when they underwent a significant trial and experienced God's deliverance, they marked the location by the stacking of rocks. You are invited to write your rock of Lament experienced in this season and place it as an offering to God.

Silence

2nd Reflection: **Longing**

Holy Scripture reminds us of Wilderness Experiences where God's people feel disconnected from their homeland, their place of belonging and sometimes even their God. In these times, they long to be elsewhere. They long for reconnection. On the **Map of World Experience**, locate where you've been. Locate where you long to be. Offer it to the Lord or hold on to it as a guide for further reflection as you are led.

Silence

3rd Reflection: **Hope**

Flame (fire and light) has long been a symbol of God's abiding presence and power. As we move forward as Easter people, as redeemed people, you are invited to transfer a flame onward. Light a candle honoring your hope for the future and your confidence that God is with you in that hope.

Silence

A sermon may be preached instead if local context demands.

Prayers of the People

Leader: All loving and compassionate God, in this time of Global Pandemic, Civil Divisiveness, Racial Strife and Future Unknowing, we pray that you would gather up all our reflections and hear within them our laments, our longings, our hopes as we now pray for the church and for the world:

For all who have died with the gloved hand of a stranger to hold at the end.
For endurance through loss of strength and comfort found in community with others.
For renewed contact with friends and family.
For return to active lives without fear from illness.

Lord, In your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

For acceptance of viewpoints different from our own.
For the will to seek and find goodness in one another.
For unrest to end and openness to rise up among all people.

Lord, In your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

For courage to see racial inequalities in our nation and the will to address them.
For an end to physical and psychological barriers based on race, color, or ethnicity.
For the will to go first in loving one another as You love us.

Lord, In your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

For thoughtful determination of how to make the new normal better than the old ways.
For wise decisions and right actions by those in authority to move us through uncertainty to stability and equality for all.
For the Church to be a renewed faithful witness to the world.
For Your will to be done in our lives and in the world.

Lord, In your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

For the ways you bless our lives and abide in the world.
People: **We give you thanks.**

Presider adds a concluding collect or offers the following:

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Offertory

People: Our little lives, our big problems - these we place upon Thy altar!

Brood over our spirits, Our Father,
Blow upon whatever dream Thou hast for us
That there may glow once again upon our hearths
The light from Thy Altar.

Our little lives, our big problems - these we place upon Thy altar!

Pour out upon us whatever our spirits need of shock, of lift, of release That we may
find strength for these days -
Courage and hope for tomorrow.

Our little lives, our big problems - these we place upon Thy altar!

In confidence we rest in Thy sustaining grace
Which makes possible triumph in defeat, gain in loss and love in hate. We rejoice this
day to say:

Our little lives, our big problems - these we place upon Thy altar. AMEN.

-Our Little Lives, Howard Thurman

The Hymnal 1982 - #671 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 * 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, John Rees (19th cent.) Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919) Copyright ©1974 by Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Holy Eucharist

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy

One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Presider & People:

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.

The Presider continues:

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,

longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People:

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

The Presider continues:

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with [blessed _____, and] all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People:

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

Presider Continues:

We now pray as our Savior taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

Fraction Anthem:

[Alleluia] Christ our Passover is Sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the peace [Alleluia].

Behold what you are.
May we become what we receive.

Enriching Our Music 1 & 2 - #149 Ubi caritas

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

The first system of the musical score for 'Ubi caritas' is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. It features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass clef. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are dashed circles around the notes for 'tas' and 'mor' in the treble staff, and around the notes for 'ty' and 'love' in the bass staff.

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

The second system of the musical score for 'Ubi caritas' continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a triplet of eighth notes in the treble staff, marked with a '3' above it. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Setting: Jacques Berthier, from *Songs and Prayers from Taizé* © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Wonder Love and Praise - #825 Bless the Lord my soul

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

The first system of the musical score for 'Bless the Lord my soul' is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass clef. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. There is a circled 'b' in the bass staff.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

The second system of the musical score for 'Bless the Lord my soul' continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a circled 'b' in the bass staff.

Post Communion Prayer:

O God of our ancestors,
God of our people,
before whose face the human generations pass away:
We thank you that in you we are kept safe for ever,
and that the broken fragments of our history
are gathered up in the redeeming act of your dear Son,
remembered in this holy sacrament of bread and wine.
Help us to walk daily in the Communion of Saints,
declaring our faith in the forgiveness of sins
and the resurrection of the body.
Now send us out
in the power of your Holy Spirit
to live and work for your praise and glory. Amen.

Blessing:

Remember, you are one in whom Christ dwells and delights. You live in the strong and unshakable kingdom of God. The Kingdom is not in trouble and neither are you. And the blessing of God, The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit among you and remain with you always. Amen.

-James Bryan Smith

Lift Every Voice and Sing II - #130 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

1. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
2. I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter.

1. Since I laid my bur - den down.
2. Since I laid my bur - den down.

1. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
2. I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter.

1. Since I laid my bur - den down.
2. Since I laid my bur - den down.

3. Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" etc.
4. I am climbing Jacob's ladder. etc.

Dismissal:

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. [Alleluia, Alleluia]
Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, Alleluia]