



Liturgy for the Tragedy in Orlando

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, St Paul MN

June 14, 2016

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Come, you who are weary, come to the table. Come lean on the God of compassion and strength.

People **Blessed be God, now and forever.**

Opening Hymn

For All the Children



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when



raise our song a - bove, and we dare to claim the
one day they be free; and we sing for gen - er -
short by fear and shame so a - fraid of who they
chil - dren far and wide, can live their lives with



pro - mise of Your love. Though the
a - tions yet to be, that they
are and whom they love. May the
dig - ni - ty and pride. As they

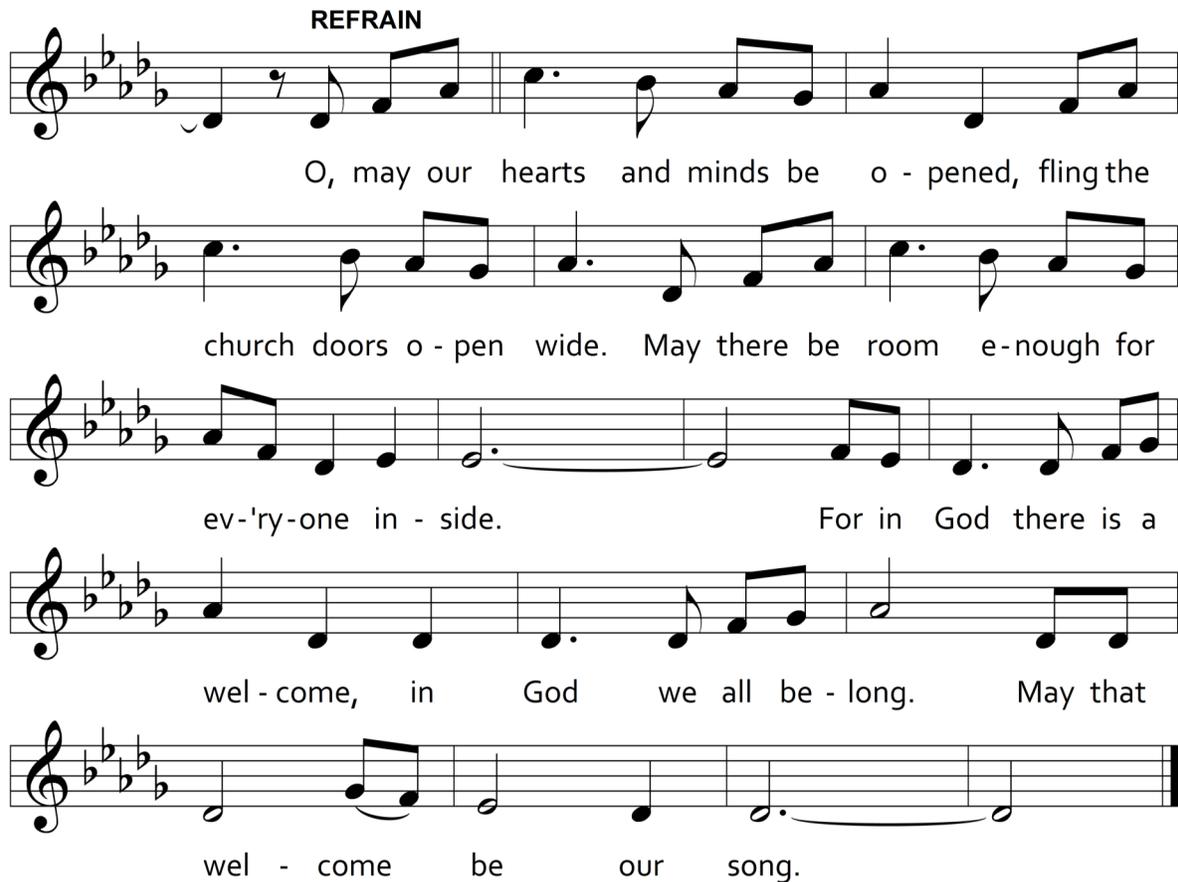


day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will
nev - er have a rea - son to doubt that they are
mess - age now be ban - ished that Your love is for the
grow in strength and sta - ture, may they join us hand in



be, when your chil - dren will be free.
blest. May they, in Your love, find rest.
few, may their faith in You re - new.
hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

REFRAIN



O, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the
church doors o - pen wide. May there be room e - nough for
ev - 'ry - one in - side. For in God there is a
wel - come, in God we all be - long. May that
wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman
Music: David Lohman

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Opening Collect

Celebrant Let us turn our hearts to love.

People **Holy God, you have made us members of one body, connected like muscle and bone. If one suffers, we all suffer. We gather tonight in common grief for the tragedy in Orlando, and for the seemingly relentless reality of gun violence. We seek to transform the world by doing what Jesus taught us: welcoming the stranger, loving our enemy, and working for justice. Tonight we pause in our confusion and grief. Through sacrament, song, and friendship, may your Spirit bind our broken hearts, and send us out with renewed dreams of a better day. This we ask in the name of the Holy Trinity, one God. Amen.**

First Reading

Luke 6:27-37

The people may be seated.

"But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don't withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don't demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you. "If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If

you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. Be compassionate just as your God is compassionate. Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Chant Ubi Caritas

Refrain

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:2-8; *Where charity and love are found, God is there*; Taizé Community, 1978
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
 © 1979, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Gospel

John 1:1-5

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Jesus according to John.
People **Our hearts and minds are open.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him, not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Deacon The Gospel of Jesus.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Litany

Deacon Our hearts are broken, our minds are reeling, and so we come before you, Holy One, God of peace and comfort, laying our concerns at your feet, seeking solace, courage, and hope for a better day. Let us pray.

We pray for your church, that our voice may be strong and clear, our action effective and swift, bringing and end to gun violence and hatred.

Sung response.

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

We pray for protection for those places of refuge and safety, of solidarity and celebration, because the road to justice is long and we need our strength, and our friends.

Sung response.

We pray for first responders, for police and EMTs, for therapists and coroners, for health care workers and all who sacrifice much to serve the common good.

Sung response.

We pray for our Muslim brothers and sisters, that in this time of tension and unrest we as Christians may be especially warm and loving, and shelter them from persecution.

Sung response.

We pray for those who inspire hatred, for those governed by fear, especially for the leaders of the ISIL, for the soul of the man who committed the massacre in Orlando, and for all considering similar violence.

Sung response.

We pray for all who are afraid, and all who mourn. We pray for those throughout history who have suffered violence and death because of their sexual orientation. Tonight we honor those who died in the Orlando massacre.

Sung response.

Deacon Fill our hearts with compassion, transform our grief into commitment to follow the example of Jesus until all live in dignity, safety, and peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand, as you are able.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

We Come to This Table

We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,
Diverse in our cultures, yet nourished as one.
The bread and the cup that we share here with others
Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by our God.

We grieve for your world here; we cry, "How much longer?"
We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.
Yet here, at God's table we're fed and made stronger
To labor in God's name for a world filled with peace.

We stand at this table with new dedication
To feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,
To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;
We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest

Text: © 2002 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette and adapted by St. Mary's Episcopal Church for local use. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved. Music: KREMSER (a.k.a. We Gather Together) from *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626.

Eucharistic Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

People **Holy One, we gather this day as one people, members of the same body, grateful for your many gifts, and carrying the hope within us for a world filled with love. This vision was given by you, from the very beginning of your creation.**

You made the earth, and all that lives on it. You inspired prophets and shepherds, widows and slaves, to seek liberation from all that oppresses, so that we might be released to love fully. You became incarnate in Jesus Christ, so that through him we might experience the depth and width of your unquenchable love.

While Jesus lived among us he stood up for women and children, he touched the untouchable, healed the sick, and welcomed those who had given up hope of being included. Through him we see a path not only to our own freedom, but a path to the liberation of the whole world.

He taught us that it will not be in the brutality of violence that our world will be saved. Rather, it will be in showing kindness to our neighbor, in standing up against injustice, in returning hate with love, in transforming one heart at a time. It will be in the simple but holy task of dining together, sharing bread and wine, truly seeing one another as beloved by you.

Celebrant **We know this because on the night before he was murdered, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying “Take, eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this to remember me.” After dinner he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it to them and said: “Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new promise, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me.”**

People **Send your Holy Spirit, we pray, into these gifts of bread and wine. Please send your Holy Spirit into us, that we may recognize each other as members of the same body, Christ’s hands and feet and heart, sent for the healing of the world.**
All this we ask in your name. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant **We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.**

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

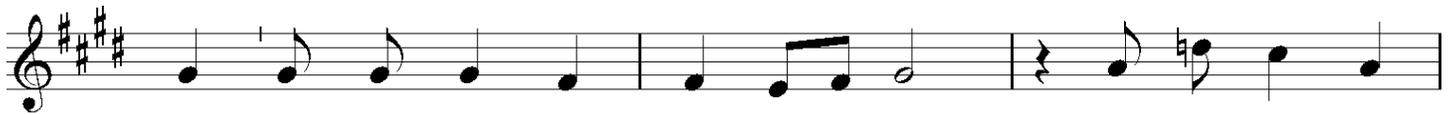
The congregation may be seated.



1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure



of the sea; there's a kind - ness in his jus -
 up in heaven; there is no place where earth's fail -
 of the mind; and the heart of the E - ter -



tice, which is more than lib - er - ty. There is wel - come
 ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given. There is plen - ti -
 nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were



for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good; there is mer - cy
 ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for
 but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word; and our life would



with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Interlude/Conclusion

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814–1863), alt.; Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938–1984) © 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Communion Music II

Oh, Let Me Be Your Light

Capo fret 3 (G) (D/F#) (Em⁷) (D) (G) (D/F#) (Em⁷)
 B^b F/A Gm⁷ F B^b F/A Gm⁷

O let me be your light to the na-
 - tions what-ev-er oth-ers may have done with un-kind words, with a gur-
 - let me rise up like the sun and shine your love all the way to the end-
 - of the earth all the way to the ends of the earth.
 - all the way to the ends of the earth.



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Communion Music III

True Colors

Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Once again you have given us what we need: sacrament, one another, hope for a better day. With renewed energy we offer ourselves to be sent out in your name; hopeful, grateful, useful, leaders of liberation, proclaimers of your love. Amen.**

Final Blessing

Parting Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
You who has brought us this far on the way;
You who have by your might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
Shadowed beneath your hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James Weldon Johnson, 1900. Music: LIFE EVERY VOICE & SING by J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905. Known as the
"Black National Anthem.

Dismissal

Deacon

The Deacon says the words of dismissal.

People

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Sources for Today's Service

The Opening Acclamation, Opening Collect, and Litany were written by the Rev. LeeAnne Watkins, Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in St. Paul Minnesota. The Eucharistic Prayer and Post Communion Prayer were written by Rev. Watkins in collaboration with the gAM liturgy team at St. Mary's. Please use freely but with citation, thanks. If you are to use this, feel free to involve social media: #OrlandoEucharist on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram to spread the word and let us know where it is being used.

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