

October 11, 2009, 9:15 am - Fresh Spirit Worship - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we gather for worship,
please introduce yourself to those around you.
There are no strangers in God's house.

CALL TO WORSHIP *El-Shaddai* John Thompson

*Refrain El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai, El-Elyonna Adonai,
Age to age you're still the same, by the power of the name.
El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai erkamkana Adonai,
We will praise and lift you high, El-Shaddai.*

Through your love and through the ram,
You saved the son of Abraham,
Through the power of your hand
You turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees
You were the God who really sees,
And by your might you set your children free.
(Refrain)

Through the years you made it clear
That the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see what Messiah ought to be.
Though your Word contained the plan,
They just could not understand,
Your most awesome work was done in the frailty of your Son.
(Refrain)

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WELCOME

REFLECTION FOR PEACE

GATHERING THE PEOPLE

Women: Today, O Lord--I say YES to you!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to life!

Men: Today, O Lord--I say YES to truth!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to kindness!

Women: Today, O Lord--I say YES to gentleness!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to honesty!

Men: Today, O Lord--I say YES to peace!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to compassion!

Women: Today, O Lord--I say YES to community!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to goodness!

Men: Today, O Lord--I say YES to beauty!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to joy!

*All: Today, O Lord--I say YES to healing!
Today, O Lord--I say YES to love!*

*One: Today, O Lord--we come together in praise and thanksgiving
Let us worship God!*

OPENING SONG (see insert) *This is the Day* Bobby Fisher

RENEWING THE COVENANT

One: Shining, surprising, grace-full God, for avoiding the searchlight
of your desire for us and running away from your love:

All: Forgive us.

One: For preferring the safe, familiar and certain to the risky,
unknown and mysterious:

All: Forgive us.

One: For failing to believe in the vulnerability of power and the power
of vulnerability:

All: Forgive us.

One: For taking no delight in variety and insisting on sameness and
conformity:

All: Forgive us.

One: For fearing those different from ourselves, and projecting onto
them what we cannot accept within our own depths:

All: Forgive us.

One: For not noticing your presence in darkness as in light, in body
as in spirit, in feeling as in intellect, in pain as in healing:

All: Forgive us.

One: Set us free, we pray, to be whole human beings and to live our
lives graciously and without fear.

---time for silent reflection---

One: God forgives us:

*All: God makes peace within us:
We claim this healing, in faith and hope. Amen.*

PASSING THE PEACE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Response of the Faith Community:

*We, as a community, promise to care for William by our actions
and through our prayers. We will teach him the joys of God's
world. We will love him and we are, by this affirmation,
inseparably bound to him. We pray that we might fulfill our
vows to you and to God.*

Prayer of the Faith Community:

*Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and
pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child,
William. Watch over him as he grows. Give him understanding and
a quick concern for neighbors. Help him to be a true disciple of
Jesus Christ. God of grace, we pray for Bryan and Carna. Help
them to know you, to love with your love, to teach your truth, and
to tell the story of Jesus to their child, so that he may hear your
word and know your presence.*

*Remind us of the promises given in our own baptism, and renew
our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve
you with joy, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:17-20 CEV

Don't suppose that I came to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I did
not come to do away with them, but to give them their full meaning. Heaven
and earth may disappear. But I promise you that not even a period or comma
will ever disappear from the Law. Everything written in it must happen. If you
reject even the least important command in the Law and teach others to do
the same, you will be the least important person in the kingdom of heaven. But
if you obey and teach others its commands, you will have an important place in
the kingdom. You must obey God's commands better than the Pharisees and
the teachers of the Law obey them. If you don't, I promise you that you will
never get into the kingdom of heaven.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS BACK TO GOD

OFFERING SONG (see insert) *I Say "Yes," Lord / Digo "Si," Señor* Peña/Haugen

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 30:15-20 NIV

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I
command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, and to
keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and
the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.
But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn
away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day
that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are
crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set be-
fore you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you
and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen
to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give
you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac
and Jacob.

SERMON *Choose This Day* Rev. Thomas D. York

FOCUS SONG (see insert) *We Are God's People* Michael McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING SONG (see insert) *With Drums and Dancing* Daniel Schutte

BLESSING THE PEOPLE

Sources for today's liturgy: Gathering - Adapted from *To Give You a Future
With Hope*, David Haas; Renewing the Covenant - Adapted from *Gifts of
Many Cultures*, Kate Compston.

Thanks to Sue Richmond and Katherine Stautberg for serving as liturgists this
morning.

The rosebud celebrates the birth and baptism of William Robert Hamilton,
son of Bryan and Carna Hamilton, born June 27, 2009.

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God, and in honor of the baptism of
William Robert Hamilton, by his grandparents.

If you feel called to serve God by researching, writing or speaking liturgy in
future services, please feel free to talk with any of the worship leaders or drop
a note in the offering plate.

Fresh Spirit Prayer Request cards and offering envelopes are available in the
black fellowship pad folders. If you have a prayer request, concern or joy you
wish to share, please fill out a card and place it in the offering bags. All
concerns and joys are welcome!

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