

Diocese of North America and Europe
Diocesan Sunday- March 7, 2010



Order of Worship

**Theme: “Christian Witness:
(Mission Mandate of the Church)”**

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me;
because the LORD hath anointed me to
preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath
sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to
proclaim liberty to the captives, and the
opening of the prison to them that are
bound;*

*To proclaim the acceptable year of the
LORD, and the day of vengeance of our
God; to comfort all that mourn;*

Isaiah 61. 1-2

Kauma

L: Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

C: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

L: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

C: Blessed is He who has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

L: Holy art Thou, O God.

C: Holy art Thou, Almighty Lord.

L: Holy art Thou, Immortal Lord.

C: O Lord, the Messiah, who was crucified for us, have mercy on us.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: O Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.

L: O Lord, accept our worship and our prayers and have mercy on us.

C: Glory be to You, O God.

L: Glory be to You, O Creator.

C: O Christ the King, who has compassion on the Your sinful servants, have mercy on us. Glory be to You. Bless us, O Lord.

L: Our Father who art in heaven...

Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day

Deuteronomy 5.15

Lord, bless us with an unfading memory of your redemption

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.

Luke 5.13

Lord, bless us with your willingness to provide the healing touch

when the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

Acts 16.19

Lord, gift us your courage to fight for justice and not caring for the consequences

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

James 5.11

Lord, fill us with your compassion and mercy

Benediction

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Amen

C: 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.

Almighty Father, we come before you to worship you in spirit and truth. You are a compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love. Lord Jesus, you, who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made yourself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Holy Spirit, you empower us to go beyond all barriers to witness to your redeeming love and to make disciples of all the nations. Today we, your people, gather together in this consecrated space and time of worship as the Diocese of North America and Europe, witnessing to your saving grace, and looking back into the glorious ways that you have led us. You are worthy of adoration and praise that we offer you with humble hearts. Amen.

Confession

Response: Lord, forgive us...

If, as a church, we have ever been inward looking and exclusive, rather than sharing Christ's mission and ministry in reaching out to the un reached...

If, as a church, we have ever been self righteous and boasting, and claiming superiority to others...

If, as a church, we have ever found comfort in the affluence and opportunities of this land and forgetting to share the brokenness of the poor and the weak...

If, as a church, we have ever been conformed to the culture of greed and consumption that has caused the human and environmental crisis and have not been agents of change...

If, ever as a church we have not chose the path of costly discipleship, but have embraced the way of cheap grace...

If, ever as a liturgical community with Oriental roots, we have not been nourishing and enriching what has been given to us...

If, ever as a reformed *ecclesia*, we have not taken up the prophetic calling in confronting the injustice in our society...

Thanksgiving

Response: *Help us to be thankful, O Lord...*

For St. Thomas, the apostle to India who shared the good news of grace and salvation and established a community of faith in Malankara...

For the liturgy that has been handed down to us which has nurtured our faith and held us together through generations...

For the churches and leaders of the East and the west that have shared us hope and strength and helped us in our journey through the centuries...

For Abraham Malpan and Geevarghese Malpan, the leaders of the Malankara reformation, who had the courage and faith to move mountains...

For the courage and the sacrifice of our elders, parents and grandparents who were obedient to the vision to establish communities of faith in lands of their sojourn ...

For the vision and hard work of all the former Bishops of our diocese, who planted and nurtured the diocese in spite of trials and challenges...

For the calling, vision and leadership of Theodosius Thirumeni, who has been leading our Diocese...

Intercession

Let us pray for

- all those who have lost or are in the fear of losing their jobs because of the economic crisis and al the young people out of college who are finding it difficult to secure an employment.
- All those who lack medical coverage and do not receive proper medical care.
- all those who are threatened with the possibility of home foreclosures
- the poor and the hungry both in the Western world and in the Third World
- the Valiya Metropolitan, Metropolitan, our Diocesan Episcopa Theodosius Thirumeni, Diocesan Secretary, Treasurer and the Diocesan Council
- the organizations of our Diocese- Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, Yuvajana Sakhyam, Young Families Fellowship, Sevika Sanghom and Edavaka Mission
- the mission endeavors of our diocese, Mexico Mission, native American mission and other ministries like the Mar Thoma Messenger

Supplication

The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering..."

Exodus 3.7

Lord, help us to be concerned about the suffering around us.

"So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

Exodus 3.10

Lord, make us aware that we are send out for your mission