Liturgy of Compassion (The Temporal Manifestation of God’s Infinite Love)

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

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. *Luke 4:18-19*

O God, let our mouths proclaim your praise.

**Let our hearts rejoice in your goodness. Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Canticle: The Exalted Lord Philippians 2:6-11*

Christ Jesus was in the form of God:

**yet he did not cling to equality with God, But emptied himself, taking the form of a servant:**

**and was born in our human likeness.**

Being found in human form he humbled himself

and was obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

**Therefore God has exalted him: and bestowed on him the Name above every name,**

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow:

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

**And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord:**

**to the glory of Almighty God. Amen**

*Canticle:* W*hat does th*e L*o*r*d* R*equire of Thee? Mi*c*ah* 6*:*6-8

The Lord has told you, O mortal, what is good;

and what does the Lord require of you

**But to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?**

**Glory to the Loving One, Source of our being, Eternal Word and Life-Giving Spirit:**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Lord, hear our prayer;

**And let our cry come to you.**

Let us pray.

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**

**Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all,**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

Eternal God, you have always taken men and women of every nation, age and color and made

them saints by transforming them in your love. Grant us grace to humbly walk with Jesus, and to be as liberal with your love as he was, and is, and will be forever more. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Benediction** *I John 4:12*

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

**Blessed be God the source of all compassion**.

*Canticle: P*r*aye*r A*ttributed to* St. Francis

O Lord, make us instruments of your peace!

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love.**

Where there is injury, pardon.

**Where there is discord, harmony.**

Where there is doubt, faith.

**Where there is despair, hope.**

Where there is darkness, light,

**Where there is sorrow, joy.**

Oh Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

**To be understood as to understand;**

to be loved as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive;

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.**

Glory to the Loving One, Source of our being, Eternal Word and Life-Giving Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Blessing*

The God of Truth bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficiality

so that you live from deep within your heart.

The God of Understanding make you tender in the face of pain and rejection

so that others can know the comfort of your acceptance.

The God of Justice make you fierce in the face of oppression and exploitation

so that others can live with dignity in the midst of your respect.

The God of all Wisdom bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can lead others to do what many claim cannot be done.

**Amen.**

Go in compassion to love and enjoy the Lord.

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