

A Hospital Chapel Sermon from PSALM 62, MATTHEW 11:28-29 & ROMANS 15:13  
On GOD's Peace

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### I. GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The LORD be with you and give you His peace! Welcome to this short Chapel service. Today we will share a short time of worship together with GOD and with one another. May all our prayers, cries and desires of peace, strength and deliverance which we bring before The Throne of our Eternal King be answered according to His will and for the good of all His people!

### II. A CHANT FROM PSALM 34 – THE MAGNIFICATE DOMINUM

O magnify The LORD with me,  
And let us exalt His Name together.  
O taste and see that The LORD is good,  
Blessed is the... [one] that trusteth in Him.  
O fear The LORD, ye that are His saints,  
For there is no want to them that fear Him.  
The eyes of The LORD are upon the righteous,  
And His ears are open unto their cry.  
The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart,  
And saveth such as are of a... [repentant] spirit.  
The LORD redeemeth the soul of His servants,  
And none of them that trust in Him shall be condemned. <sup>1</sup>

### III. OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray: O Eternal GOD, most merciful Father, we praise Thee in that Thou hast heard us in the hour of distress, and art become our salvation. For Thou art a GOD full of compassion and plenteous in mercy. And so we are alive to praise Thee this day, not for our worthiness, but because of Thy great mercies upon us. For when we are in distress, Thou dost help us; when trouble is hard upon us, and our strength fails, Thine almighty arm is our defense. Therefore, O LORD, accept our thanksgiving, keep us ever mindful of Thy steadfast perfect love and grant, we beseech Thee, these prayers we humbly lay at Thy feet. <sup>2</sup>

Let us observe together a moment of silence before His holy Presence. [Silence]  
In The Name of GOD The Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost. AMEN. [Sign of The Cross]

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<sup>1</sup> 1, REC BCP, "The Magnificate Dominum," from PSALM 34.

<sup>2</sup> 1, REC BCP, adapted from prayer "For Deliverance from Peril," p 1-58.

IV. PSALM 62 – WORDS OF DAVID ON GOD’S PEACE

What does King David say of GOD’s peace? He says in PSALM 62:1-12:

- <sup>1</sup> Truly my soul waiteth upon GOD:  
from Him cometh my salvation.
- <sup>2</sup> He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defence;  
I shall not be greatly moved.
- <sup>5</sup> My soul, wait thou only upon GOD;  
for my expectation is from Him.
- <sup>6</sup> He only is my rock and my salvation: He is my defence;  
I shall not be moved.
- <sup>7</sup> In GOD is my salvation and my glory:  
the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in GOD.
- <sup>8</sup> Trust in Him at all times; ye people,  
pour out your heart before Him...
- <sup>11</sup> ...[For all] power belongeth unto GOD.
- <sup>12</sup> [Yeah,... unto Thee O Lord, belongeth [perfect] mercy... <sup>3</sup>

V. MATTHEW 11:28-29 – WORDS OF MATTHEW ON GOD’S PEACE

What does JESUS CHRIST say of GOD’s peace? He says in MATTHEW 11:29-30:

- <sup>28</sup> Come unto Me, all ye that labour  
and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
- <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me...  
and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>4</sup>

VI. ROMANS 15:13 – WORDS OF PAUL ON GOD’S PEACE

What does Saint Paul say of GOD’s peace? He says in ROMANS 15:13:

- <sup>13</sup> Now The GOD of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace in believing,  
that ye may abound in hope [in The Lord],  
through the power of The Holy... [Spirit]. <sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> 2, KJV, PSALM 62.

<sup>4</sup> 2, KJV, MATTHEW 11:28-29.

<sup>5</sup> 2, KJV, ROMANS 15:13.

## VII. HOMILY

Saint Augustine says, "Our hearts are restless, O Lord, until they rest in Thee."<sup>6</sup> Why? Because GOD has made us in such a way, that we can not be fulfilled unless we rest in Him. Only then may we rest in His Peace. Why? Because, as David says, GOD is our only sure rock, our strength, our salvation, our refuge. To Him do we pour out our hearts for His deliverance. And on what grounds do we hope to receive GOD's peace? Our sure hope rests in the loving mercy of The King of the universe!

To whom does The Lord call out to receive His peace? To all men and women. And when other passing things of the world fall away, it is then that we hear His call most clearly in our souls, "Come all you who are weary, hurting, heavy-laden, worried and afflicted!" Most especially in times of trial, pain and loss do we need the rest of His peace upon our souls and our lives. Therefore The Almighty says to us, "Come! In My mercy, I offer you rest. Receive My peace!"

And how shall we appropriate this Divine peace? As Paul reminds us, we may receive it by faith in The LORD. Our sure hope of GOD's peace. We will not always understand, "Why, GOD?" But even in the midst of sorrow, His Spirit fills us, leads us, comforts us, takes us to His bosom, lifts us up and gives us His rest. May it be so for us all, both now and forever.

## VIII. PETITIONS

Let us offer up our petitions unto our Eternal Good Shepherd Above on behalf of the following people:

Let us cry out unto The Throne of our loving Heavenly Father for all those in need of His deliverance, both those whose names we now speak out and those whose names we remember silently in our hearts:

Let us bring our tears before The LORD to remember in a moment of silence all those who have died for whom our hearts are broken:

Let us lastly come before our Creator and Redeemer to silently offer up all our other prayers, knowing that He is forever listening to our cries:

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<sup>6</sup> 3, CCC, # 30, p 18-19, adapted from Saint Augustine's prayer, "You are great, O Lord..."

IX. CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray: Almighty GOD, Who hast given us Thy Grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in Thy Name, Thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of Thy Truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. In Thy Name, we do pray unto Thee, O GOD, AMEN. <sup>7</sup>

X. BENEDICTION

Let us bow our heads together and pray for GOD's blessing for one another:

May The LORD bless us and keep us

And all our loved ones.

May The LORD make the light of His face to shine upon us

And be gracious to us.

May The LORD uplift us all

With His mighty outstretched arm.

May The LORD continue, now and always,

To surround us and fill us

With His loving Presence

And give us His peace. <sup>8</sup>

In The Name of GOD The Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost. AMEN. [Sign of The Cross]

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<sup>7</sup> 1, REC, BCP, "A Prayer of St. Chrysostom," p 35.

<sup>8</sup> 2, KJV, adapted from NUMBERS 6:24-26.

XI. REFERENCES

1. "The Revised Offices of The Book of Common Prayer." The 48<sup>th</sup> General Council of The Reformed Episcopal Church. The Special Commission on Prayer Book Revision of The Reformed Episcopal Church. 1997. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.
2. "King James Version [Bible]." Bible Works 7. Bible Works, LLC. Norfolk, Virginia. 2006.
3. "Catechism of The Catholic Church." United States Catholic Conference. Doubleday of Random House, Inc. New York, London, Toronto, Sydney, Auckland. 1995.