

Let Us Be Light for One Another

Disturb Us, Lord

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too pleased with ourselves; when our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little; when we have arrived safely because we sailed too close to shore. Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess we have lost our thirst for the abundance of life; having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity. And in the efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new heaven to dim. Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of the land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes; and to push us toward the future in strength, courage, faith, hope, and love. ----- *Sir Francis Drake*

Call to Prayer

Leader (as candle is being lit):
Jesus said, "I am the light of the world...
Whoever follows me will have the light of life
And will never walk in darkness." (John 8:12)



Lord, you said that where two or three
Come together in your name,
You are there with them.
The light of this candle symbolizes your presence among us.

And so, let us remember...

All: That we are in the holy presence of God.

Pause

De La Salle's Voice

All our labors would be useless if Jesus Christ did not give the power, the quality, and the energy that is need to render it useful. Our lord says, "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it remains attached to the vine, so neither can you bear fruit if you do not remain in me. This will be the glory of my Father that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." What Jesus Christ says to his apostles he also says to us, his followers that we may understand that all the good we are able to do in our work will be true and effective only insofar as Jesus Christ gives it his blessing and we remain in community with him. It is the same for us as it is for the branch. It can bear fruit only if it remains attached to the vine and draws its sap and strength from the vine. This is the source of all the goodness of any fruit.

Choral Response

Left: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

Right: Lord Jesus, you are the vine, we are the branches.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

Left: Lord Jesus, you came to serve and not to be served.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

Right: Lord Jesus, you proclaim children to be blessed, and you love them.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

Left: You offered yourself for the salvation of us all.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

Right: Lord Jesus, you gave us your body and blood to nourish us in our ministry.

All: We are called in Christ to be the light of the world.

God's Word

So we put on Christ and we teach everyone all that we know about him so that we may bring all peoples to their full maturity in Christ Jesus. As, therefore, God's chosen representatives of the new humanity, purified and beloved of God, let us be merciful in action, kindly in heart, and humble in mind. Let us accept life and be most patient and tolerant with one another, always ready to forgive as freely as the Lord has forgiven us. And, above everything else, let us truly love, for love is the golden chain of all virtues. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, remembering that as members of the one body we are called to live in harmony, and let us never forget to be thankful for what God has done for us. Let Christ's teaching live in our hearts, making us rich in the true wisdom. Whatever you do in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

We Respond Together

Be born in us, Incarnate Love.

Take our flesh and blood, and give us your humanity.

Take our lives, and give us your vision.

Take our minds, and give us your pure thought.

Take our feet, set them in your path.

Take our hands; fold them in your prayer.

Take our hearts, and give them your will to love.

Take our fatigue, and give us your rest.

A Reading from The Human Word

(Jean Vanier)

Jesus speaks mainly to the poor, the rejected and the powerless. He says explicitly that he came to announce the Good News to the poor. Those who are poor and humble feel loved and understood by Jesus. He touches and awakens their hearts, he reassures them and loves them; they in turn respond with love. People who are well-situated in society, who know success, who have a certain influence and who exercise authority, but who are not in touch with their inner weaknesses and poverty, have trouble understanding the loving but demanding message of Jesus. He disturbs them. In the parable of the wedding feast, the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind respond to the invitation to come. The rich and powerful refuse. They do not have the time because they have other things to do. They are often seeking the knowledge of God, but their hearts are not humble and open enough simply to welcome the presence of God.

Reflection and Intercessions

Closing Song:

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in you
Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, every joy
O master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul
Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving of ourselves that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.



***Saint John Baptist de La Salle...Pray for us!
Live, Jesus, in our hearts...Forever!***