

Worship

Based on the Catholic Worship created at the conference "Living in a world of technology: The changes in social behavior" in Layliainen, Finland 29 March - 4 April, 2011.

Song: *Ubi Caritas* (Taize)

Reading: *Can be taken from Old Testament for the day or you can use Psalm 115*

To Your Name Give Glory

¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

² Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"

³ Our God is in the heavens;
he does all that he pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak;
eyes, but do not see.

⁶ They have ears, but do not hear;
noses, but do not smell.

⁷ They have hands, but do not feel;
feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound in their throat.

⁸ Those who make them become like them;
so do all who trust in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us;
he will bless the house of Israel;
he will bless the house of Aaron;

¹³ he will bless those who fear the LORD,
both the small and the great.

¹⁴ May the LORD give you increase,
you and your children!

¹⁵ May you be blessed by the LORD,
who made heaven and earth!

¹⁶ The heavens are the LORD's heavens,
but the earth he has given to the children of man.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD,
nor do any who go down into silence.

¹⁸ But we will bless the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore.
Praise the LORD!

Song: *Laudate Omnes Gentes* (Taizé)

Reading: *Can be taken from New Testament for the day or you can use James 1: 2-9*

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. ⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

Silence

Reading:

Searching for God

by, Rabindranath Tagore

Available at: <http://www.spiritual-short-stories.com/spiritual-short-story-252-Searching+for+God.html>

I have been seeking and searching God for as long as I can remember, for many, many lives, from the very beginning of existence. Once in a while, I have seen him by the side of a faraway star, and I have rejoiced and danced that the distance, although great, is not impossible to reach. And I have traveled and reached to the star; but by the time I reached the star, God has moved to another star. And it has been going on for centuries.

The challenge is so great that I go on hoping against hope... I have to find him, I am so absorbed in the search. The very search is so intriguing, so mysterious, so enchanting, that God has become almost an excuse – the search has become itself the goal.

And to my surprise, one day I reached a house in a faraway star with a small sign in front of it, saying, "This is the house of God". My joy knew no bounds – so finally I have arrived! I rushed up the steps, many steps that led to the door of the house. But as I was coming closer and closer to the door, a fear suddenly appeared in my heart. As I was going to knock, I became paralyzed with a fear that I had never known, never thought of, never dreamt of. The fear was:

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“If this house is certainly the house of God, then what will I do after I have found him?”

Now searching for God has become my very life; to have found him will be equivalent to committing suicide. And what am I going to do with him? I had never thought of all these things before. I should have thought before I started the search: what am I going to do with God? I took my shoes in my hands, and silently and very slowly stepped back, afraid that God may hear the noise and may open the door and say, “Where are you going? I am here, come in!” And as I reached the steps, I ran away as I have never run before; and since then I have been again searching for God, looking for him in every direction and avoiding the house where he really lives. Now I know that house has to be avoided. And I continue the search, enjoy the very journey, the pilgrimage.

Song: *Bless the Lord* (Taizé)

Invite worshippers to share short personal prayers or reflections. After each person shares sing Kyrie Eleison.

Prayer: *Our Father* each in their own language.

Share the sign of Peace with everyone present.

Song: *Laudate Dominum* (Taizé)