



Inkosi Mvumbi Luthuli, ca. 1960; photographer unknown
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**ST. MARY'S
SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST**
Including a Reflection
on the Life and Witness of
**MVUMBI LUTHULI,
PROPHETIC WITNESS IN SOUTH AFRICA
(1967 CE)**

from *Holy Women, Holy Men*

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

7:00-7:30 am Service of Holy Eucharist

7:30-8:00 Fellowship and Conversation

<https://zoom.us/j/584949088>

Meeting ID (recurring): 584 949 088

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Eternal God, we thank you for the witness of Inkosi (Chief) Luthuli, Nobel Laureate for Peace, who was sustained by his Christian faith as he led the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. Strengthen us, after his example, to make no peace with oppression and to witness boldly for our Deliverer, Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PSALM 122

The St. Helena Psalter

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of God.”

Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Holy One,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of God.

For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

For my kindred and companions' sake,
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the Holy One our God,
I will seek to do you good.”

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 16:25-33

A reading from John.

“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father. On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.” His disciples said, “Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.” Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!”

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

REMEMBERING MVUMBI LUTHULI, PROPHETIC WITNESS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Mvumbi Luthuli was the first African to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his leadership in South Africa’s non-violent struggle against apartheid. A man of noble bearing, charitable, intolerant of hatred, and adamant in his demands for equality and peace among all men, Luthuli forged a philosophical compatibility between two cultures—the Zulu culture of his native Africa and the Christiandemocratic culture of Europe

Born into a Christian family around the turn of the twentieth century, Luthuli was educated in mission schools, took a college degree in Durban, and spent the first fifteen years of his working life as a school teacher before taking on the responsibilities of political activism. In 1936, he was elected a Zulu chief and was made responsible for a five thousand person community in the sugar lands of Natal. This led to a number of other elected and appointed positions related to the struggle for civil rights in South Africa, culminating in his election as President of

the Natal region of the African National Congress in 1945, becoming National President in 1952.

Luthuli's increasing prominence as a leader of the anti-apartheid movement was met with significant resistance by the white South African government. His movements were restricted, his publications banned, and he was imprisoned on several occasions.

Luthuli believed the struggle for civil rights was a Christian struggle and his participation and leadership grew out of his understanding of Christian discipleship. "My own urge because I am a Christian, is to get into the thick of the struggle with other Christians, taking my Christianity with me and praying that it may be used to influence for good the character of the resistance." When confronted by the South African government with an appeal to suspend his activism, Luthuli is reported to have said, "The road to freedom is via the cross."

Although Luthuli's death in 1967 was nearly a quarter century before the end of apartheid in South Africa, he is remembered as a Christian statesman in the fight against political, racial, and religious oppression.

PRAYERS

Prayers may be offered, silently or aloud.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Form A (*Enriching Our Worship*, p. 65)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations.

And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we say,

Celebrant and People

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Loving God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

The Celebrant then continues

We now celebrate, O God, the memorial of Christ our Savior. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of Christ's death, and proclaim the resurrection, until Christ comes in glory. Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, in the words Christ taught us, we are bold to pray, saying, ***Our Father...***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

*Eternal and Life-Giving God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage*

*to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

BLESSING

May the peace which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may the blessing of the loving God, and God's son, risen for us, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.