

I Will Praise Him Still

By Fernando Ortega

Words are in the print copy..

Old Orchard Church

January 23, 2011 – 10:15 to 11:50 a.m.



The Ages of Man
(Lyon, France 1482)

We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

And God made from one every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God....

—Acts 17:26-27a—

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Celebrating Jesus, Incarnate Son of God: Lord of the Life of the Family of Man

Before we are redeemed we are human,
Made in the marvelous image of the one living God,
Like all our neighbors—believers and unbelievers alike;
Together, all the children of Adam are the one “family of man,”
Created by the great God of grace and mercy!

All Christian responsibility in the civil sphere is directed toward
The high end of protecting and promoting our common, created, human life,

In all of its fractured glory,
That the ascended, incarnate Lord of all things
May do his work of blessing and giving and saving
Among the daughters of Eve and the sons of Adam,
In every nation of the earth!



Today's Scripture

Old Testament Lesson: From Psalm 104

New Testament Lesson: from Colossians 3, 1 Corinthians 7:29b-31

Today's Sermon

“Boaz: Becoming Men of Honor in Self-Indulgent Cultures” Part 2

Ruth 2-4

Ron Lutjens, senior pastor, preaching

Our Common Human Life

The first cry of a newborn baby in Chicago or Zamboango, in Amsterdam or Rangoon, has the same pitch and key, each saying, “I am! I have come through! I belong! I am a member of the Family....”

If the human face is “the masterpiece of God” it is here then in a thousand fateful registrations. Often the faces speak what words can never say. Some tell of eternity and others only the latest tattlings. Child faces of blossom smiles or mouths of hunger are followed by homely faces of majesty carved and worn by love, prayer and hope, along with others light and carefree as thistledown in a late summer wind. Faces having land and sea on them, faces honest as the morning; sun flooding a clean kitchen with light, faces crooked and lost and wondering where to go this afternoon or tomorrow morning. Faces in crowds. Laughing and windblown leaf faces, profiles in an instant of agony, mouths in a dumbshow mockery lacking speech, faces of music in gay song or a twist of pain, a hate ready to kill, or calm and ready-for-death faces. Some of them are worth a long look now and deep contemplation later. Faces betokening a serene blue sky or faces dark with storm winds and lashing night rain. And faces beyond forgetting, written over with faiths in men and dreams of man surpassing himself. An alphabet here and a multiplication table of living breathing human faces.

In the times to come as the past there will be generations taking hold as though loneliness and the genius of struggle has always dwelt in the hearts of pioneers. To the question, “What will the story be of the Family of Man across the near or far future?” some would reply, “For the answers read if you can the strange and baffling eyes of youth.”

There is only one man in the world
and his name is All Men.

There is only one woman in the world
and her name is All Women.

There is only one child in the world
and the child's name is All Children.

A camera testament, a drama of the grand canyon of humanity, an epic woven of fun, mystery and holiness—here is the Family of Man!

—By Carl Sandburg in the Prologue to *The Family of Man*, record of the photographic exhibition by the same name created by Edward Steichen for the Museum of Modern Art in New York City in 1955