

Diocese of North America and Europe of the Mar Thoma Church

DIASPORA SUNDAY – November 27, 2022

Order of Worship

Kauma

- L: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
C: **As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be forever. Amen.**
L: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
C: **Blessed is He who has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**
- L: Holy art Thou, O God. *
C: **Holy art Thou, Almighty Lord. ***
L: Holy art Thou, Immortal Lord. *
C: **O Lord, the Messiah, who was crucified U for us, have mercy on us.***
*[*To be repeated three times]*
- L: Lord, have mercy upon us.
C: **Lord, have compassion and mercy upon us.**
L: Lord, accept our prayers and worship, and have mercy upon us.
C: **Glory to You, O God.**
L: Glory to You, Creator of all.
C: **Glory to You, O King, the Messiah, for You have compassion on Your sinful servants. Bless us, O Lord.**
- L: Our Father in Heaven,
All: **Hallowed be Your Name; May Your kingdom come. May Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the time of trial, but deliver us from the evil one. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Opening Prayer

- L: Almighty and loving God, You have given us grace to worship You from different parts of the world where You have planted us. We thank You for Your abundant mercy that sustains us in our adopted lands. We acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and the power of Your divine presence that have guided us in the past. We pray that You would keep us steadfast in faith and evermore equip us to face the challenges of the present time, and give us the courage to share the gospel in our neighborhoods. As we worship You on this Diaspora Sunday, empower us by Your presence to worship You in truth and spirit. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C: **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

L: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
(1st John 1:8)

Let us pray together the following confession prayer.

All: **O God, You have always been faithful to us, keeping Your promises, yet we have failed to be faithful to You. We pray to You, O God, to pardon our weaknesses and failures. We confess that we have done things which we ought not have done and left things undone which we ought to have done. We lack the diligence to discern Your will in dispersing us to different parts of the world. We have been insensitive to the needs of the community around and remained exclusive. We conveniently avoided opportunities to proclaim You through our words and deeds. Therefore, we confess our unfaithfulness, our neglected opportunities, our deafness to Your call, our unwillingness to help the needy and the poor, our refusal to take up the cross, and our negligence in meditating upon Your Word and practicing faith in our daily lives. Forgive us, O Lord. Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us. Help us to lead a righteous life, and guide us into life eternal. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Thanksgiving Prayers

Let's give thanks to God for all His manifold blessings.

Our response shall be "We thank You, O Lord."

L: For creating us, giving us life, and for the opportunity to live.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

L: For redeeming us through the life, death, and resurrection of Your son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and for giving us the joy of being Your children.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

L: For giving us the comfort of our homes, guidance of our parents, joy of our children, and fellowship of our friends and dear ones.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

L: For all the opportunities to work, live, witness, and worship as a Diaspora community; for the food, health, strength, and skill to work; for a mind to think and a heart to love.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

L: For our Mar Thoma Church, its vision, mission and leadership.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

L: For the early Mar Thoma settlers in the United States, Canada, Europe, and all around the world who earnestly labored with limited resources in forming and establishing prayer groups and congregations which later grew into parishes across many continents.

C: **We thank You, O Lord.**

Litany of Intercession

Our response shall be "Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer."

L: Lord we pray for people all over the world, especially for all immigrant communities.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Where our immigrant people are living and working hard to adjust to the new surroundings, Lord remove all fear of discrimination and help them to live and work in love with others as Christ taught us.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Lord, help our society and people to live in obedience to the laws of our adopted lands, abiding in faith, and help us to comfort the broken-hearted, proclaim recovery of sight to the blind and freedom to those who are held captives in difficult circumstances.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: You who promised, *"If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."* We pray that you protect and prosper us as a Diaspora community.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Lord, help us to love You, to listen to Your voice, and to hold fast to You. You are our life, and we believe in Your promise that You will give many years in the land to those who fear You as You promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Help us to remove any trace of hatred and bias in our hearts for other immigrants and ethnic groups and to love them as friends and neighbors.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: God Almighty, protect and guide our future generations so that they may be Your witnesses in the midst of diverse cultures, keeping the faith and traditions handed down to us through our forefathers and foremothers.

C: **Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Scripture Readings:

Leviticus 25:18-24 and 1st Peter 2:11-17

Benediction:

L: May the blessings of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you all through your life.

C: **Amen.**