

Holy, Holy Is Your Name

This prayer service is best used at the conclusion of Chapters 7 and 8 of *Jesus Christ: His Mission and Ministry*.

Have taper candles available.

Gospel Reading

Leader: We gather together in the name of God's only begotten Son. Let us now listen to how he received his name.

Reader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 1:18-23)

Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed Are You, Lord

Leader: Let us call upon the name of the Lord in blessing.

Voice 1: Blessed are you, Jesus, "God saves," Savior, bringing rescue from past sins, reconciliation with the Father, and the restoration of our future.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 2: Blessed are you, Messiah, "anointed," the Christ; you are the God-Chosen-One and the Promise of Ages fulfilled.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 3: Blessed are you, Prophet of the Most High; you speak God's Good Word in a language beyond the power of speech.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 4: Blessed are you, Rabbi, "teacher," come to share God's wondrous wisdom with all who are seekers of truth.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 5: Blessed are you, great High Priest, come to be our intercessor and mediator; come to stretch out your arms in the cross and so connect earth to Heaven once more.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 6: Blessed are you, the King of the universe, yet servant of us all—the great and small.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 7: Blessed are you, Lamb of God, our paschal sacrifice, come to save us by your blood.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Voice 8: Blessed are you, the loving Lord who refuses to lord over us, but who chooses to dwell with us and in us.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy is your name.

Leader: We bless and praise you, O Lord, for your coming among us, for your ministry to us, for your redeeming mercy toward us, and for your mission shared with us. We bless and praise you not only for loving us as we are, but even more for loving us so much and too much to allow us to remain that way. We bless and praise you for reminding us that we who dare to speak your name share your name. We bless and praise you that we too are called to be holy, holy, holy.

All: Amen.

Concluding Hymn

Conclude by singing a familiar "Holy, Holy, Holy" or a hymn such as "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name."