

VESPERS on the eve of the Lesser Feast of Kamehameha and Emma King and Queen of Hawaii

1863 and 1885

2024 Nov 28

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

The Preparation

Officiant

King Kamehameha IV ascended the throne in 1855, the year after the Hawaiian people had been horribly afflicted by smallpox. Accustomed to a royalty that ruled with pomp and power, the people were astounded to find a king and queen who went about, "with notebook in hand", to solicit from rich and poor the funds to build "Queen's Hospital", now the largest civilian hospital in Hawaii. During a boyhood tour of England, the king had seen, in the stately beauty of Anglican liturgy, a quality that seemed attuned to the gentle beauty of the Hawaiian spirit with the result that, in 1860, he and Emma petitioned for missionaries to establish the Anglican Church in Hawaii. The Rt. Rev. Thomas Staley and two priests arrived on October 11, 1862, and the king and queen were confirmed a month later, on November 28, 1862. They then began preparations for a cathedral and school, and the king set about translating the Book of Common Prayer and much of the hymnal. Kamehameha died in 1863, a year after the tragic death of their only son, and Emma declined to rule. Committing her life to good works, she was responsible for schools, churches, and efforts on behalf of the poor and sick, travelling to Europe and England to raise funds and became a favourite of Queen Victoria's. St. Andrew's Cathedral in Honolulu was named in memory of Kamehameha, who died on that saint's day.

Adapted from Lesser Feasts and Fasts, the Episcopal Church of the United States.

The Preparation

Officiant

O God, make speed to save us, O Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the Sun to its setting your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Act of Praise

Day Is Done, But Love Unfailing Common Praise 20

Cantor or Officiant

Day is done, but love unfailing dwells ever here; shadows fall, but hope prevailing, calms every fear. God our maker, none forsaking, take our hearts, of love's own making, watch our sleeping, guard our waking, be always near.

Dark descends, but light unending, shines through our night; you are with us, ever lending, new strength to sight. One in love, your truth confessing, one in hope of heaven's blessing, may we see, in love's possessing, love's endless light!

Eyes will close, but you unsleeping watch by our side; death may come, in love's safe keeping, still we abide. God of love, all evil quelling, sin forgiving, fear dispelling, stay with us, our hearts indwelling, this eventide.

The Psalm

Psalm 33: 12 - 22

Psalmist

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! * happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

The Lord looks down from heaven, * and beholds all the people in the world.

From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze * on all who dwell on the earth.

He fashions all the hearts of them * and understands all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; * a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; * for all its strength it cannot save.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, * on those who wait upon his love,

The Psalm (Cont'd)

The Psalm Prayer

To pluck their lives from death, * and to feed them in time of famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord; * he is our help and our shield.

Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy name we put our trust.

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, * as we have put our trust in you.

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe. In your loving kindness you watch over your chosen people. Make us witnesses to your truth and instruments of your peace, that all may know you as the God of justice, and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The Reading Matthew 25: 14 - 29

Reader

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward. bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy

The Reading (Cont'd)

slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

Response

After a brief period of reflection the Reader says:

Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the Earth.

Thanks be to God!

Affirmation of Faith

Officiant

Let us affirm our faith as we recite "Hear, O Israel"

Hear, O Israel, The Lord, our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

This is the first and great commandment. The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings (Cont'd) (There will be a period of intentional silence before the bidding.)

Officiant

As the shepherd who cares for the flock, O God, you guide all things through Jesus whom you have exalted over all creation as king. We pray in his name for the creation he cherished and that you entrust to us, responding to the bidding, God of Love, with "Hear Our Prayers".

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Diocese of Rockhampton – The Anglican Church of Australia, The Rt. Revd. Peter Grice, Bishop. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican - Lutheran - Moravian cycle, we pray for The Secretary General and staff of the Anglican Communion Office, The General Secretary and staff of the Lutheran World Federation, and The Unity Synod, and the president and members of the Unity Board. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our Diocesan Cycle, we pray for St. Matthew, Abbotsford - The Revd James Hwang; Chaplains to the Retired Clergy – The Revd Karin Fulcher and

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

Officiant

Archdeacon Andrew Pike. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our companion Diocese, we pray for Bishop Benny and the people of the Northern Philippines and for our sister parish of St. Gabriel, the Archangel, Lubon. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our own Parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for the volunteers of the Community Brunch program and all in need. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

Look upon your people who rejoice in your justice and mercy, and grant that the prayers we make may reveal Christ's reign in our time. **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant

O God, who called your servants Kamehameha and Emma to an earthly throne that they might advance your heavenly kingdom, and gave them zeal for your church and love for your people:

Mercifully grant that we also may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious crown of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant

Believing in the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Sending Forth

Deacon (or Officiant)

Let us go forth into the night, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.