

Prayers and reflections with Hildegard of Bingen - 7.10.2006 - Desert Creek House

O vis aeternitatis

Responsorium

V. O vis aeternitatis
que omnia ordinasti in corde tuo,
per Verbum tuum omnia creata sunt
sicut voluisti,
et ipsum Verbum tuum
induit carnem
in formatione illa
que educta est de Adam.

R. Et sic indumenta ipsius
a maximo dolore
abstersa sunt.

V. O quam magna est benignitas Salvatoris
qui omnia liberavit
per incarnationem suam,
quam divinitas exspiravit
sine vinculo peccati.

R. Et sic indumenta ipsius
a maximo dolore
abstersa sunt.

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui sancto.

R. Et sic indumenta ipsius
a maximo dolore
abstersa sunt.

(V. = verse, R. = refrain)

Prayer 1

I beseech You, my Lord, give me understanding, that by my account I may be able to make known these mystical things; forsake me not, but strengthen me by the daylight of Your justice, in which Your son was manifested. Grant me to make known the divine, counsel, which was ordained of old, as I can and should....

"...let the one who sees with watchful eyes and hears with attentive ears welcome with a kiss My mystical words, which proceed from Me Who am life."

O vis aeternitatis

Responsory

V. O power of eternity,
who have ordered all things in your heart:
by your word all things are created
as you have willed,
and your word itself,
puts on flesh
in the form
that is drawn from Adam;

R. And so those garments
are wiped clean
by great pain.

V. O how great is the saviour's kindness,
who freed all things,
by that incarnation
which divinity breathed out,
unchained by sin.

R. And so those garments
are wiped clean
by great pain.

Glory to the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit;

R. And so those garments
are wiped clear
by great pain.

Song: Caritas habundat in omnia

Caritas
habundat in omnia
de imis excellentissima
super sidera
atque amantissima
in omnia
Quia summo regi osculum pacis
dedit.

Charity
abounds in all things
from the depths to high
above the highest stars,
and is most loving
to all things;
for to the high king
It has given the kiss of peace.

The soul rejoices

... the soul rejoices in a sweet deed as the body delights in sweet food. And the soul flows through the body like sap through a tree. What does this mean? By the sap, the tree grows green and produces flowers and then fruit.

...the soul is a fruitful power, which makes the entire person live by moving with it; and just as someone puts on a cloth woven from threads and wears it, the soul, putting on all these works - whether good or ill - as a garment, is covered with the deeds that it Performed with the person, just as it is covered by the body in which it lives. And the good deeds, when the soul leaves the body, will appear like clothes shining in purest gold, because they are decorated with every adornment; but wicked deeds will stink On it, like a garment polluted with all filth.

So the soul acts in the Person like the air, which sends its strength to the earth to make it fruitful and produce its bounty, and which dries it out with winter's cold; however this force preserves heat within to fructify the earth, since through the *strength* of the soul, childhood, adolescence, and old age perform and perfect the fruits of good deeds which decrepit age, as it were, dries up through its debility. But they are preserved in true faith for the rewards of eternal blessedness, after that person's end.

The One Husband

...she is joined to the One Husband Whom sin never touched, without any lust of the flesh, but flowering perpetually with Him in the joy of the regal marriage.

Song: Spiritus Sanctus vivificans vita

Spiritus sanctus vivificans vita
movens omnia
et radix est in omni creatura
ac omnia de inmunditia abluit
tergens crimina
ac ungit vulnera
et sic est fulgens ac laudabilis vita
suscitans et resuscitans

The Holy Spirit, Life that gives life
and moves all things
and is the root of every creature
and cleanses all things of impurity
wiping away sins
and anointing wounds:
this is the radiant and admirable life,
awakening and reawakening all things.

She oversees all people

...she oversees all. people and all things in heaven and earth. And she is so bright and glorious that you cannot look at her face or her garments for the splendour with which she shines. For she is terrible with the terror of the avenging lightning, and gentle with the goodness of the bright sun; and both her terror and her gentleness are incomprehensible to humans, the terror of divine brilliance in her face and the brightness of her beauty in her garments, as the sun cannot be looked at in its burning face or its beautiful clothing of rays. But she is with everyone and in everyone, and so beautiful is her secret that no person can know the sweetness with which she sustains people, and spares them in inscrutable mercy; spares even the hardest stone, which is a hard and incorrigible person who never wants to turn aside from evil, until it can be penetrated no farther.

Prayer : The Wisdom of God

Sophia!

you of the whirling wings,
circling encompassing
energy of God:

you quicken the world in your clasp.

One wing soars in heaven
one wing sweeps the earth
and the third flies all around us.

Praise to Sophia!

Let all the earth praise her!

Song: O viridissima virga, Ave

O viridissima Virga, Ave
que in ventoso flabro sciscitationis
sanctorum prodisti

Cum venit tempis
quod tu floruisti in ramis tuis,
ave, ave fuit tibi,
Quia calor solis in te sudavit
sicut odor balsami.

Nam in te floruit pulcher flos
qui odorem dedit
omnibus aromatibus
qui arida erant.

Et illa apparuerunt omnia
in viriditate plena.

Unde celi dederunt rorem super gramen.
et omnis terra leta facta est.
quoniam viscera ipsius frumentum protulerunt
et quoniam volucres celi
nidos in ipsa habuerunt.

Deinde facta est esca hominibus
et gaudium magnum epulantium.
Unde, o suavis Virgo,
in te non deficit ullum gaudium.

Hec omnia Eva contempsit.

Nunc autem laus sit Altissimo.

Hail, O greenest branch

Hail, O greenest branch,
who in the blowing gust
of the saints' quest have come forth.

When the time came
that you were in bloom along your boughs,
hail, hail to you!
for the sun's heat sweated in you,
like the fragrance of balsam.

For a fair flower was flowering in you,
which gave its scent
to all the herbs
that were dry.

And these then all appeared,
full in greenness.

The heavens sent down dew over the grass,
and the whole earth was made happy,
for its womb brought forth grain,
and the birds of heaven
set their nests in it.

So food was made for men and women,
and great was the joy of those who ate.
From this time forth, O sweet virgin,
no joy is lacking in you.

All these things Eve scorned.

But now praise be to the highest.

Song: O ignis Spiritus Paracliti

O ignis Spiritus Paracliti
vita vite omnis creature,
sanctus es vivificando formas.

Sanctus es uniendo
periculose fractos,
sanctus es terendo
fetida vulnera.

O spiraculum sanctitatis
o ignis caritatis
o dulcus gustus in pectoribus
et infusio cordium
in bono odore virtutum.

O fons purissime
in quo consideratur
quod Deus alienos colligit
et perditos requirit.

O lorica vite
et spes compaginis membrorum omnium
Et o cingulum honestatis
salva beatos.

Custodi eos qui carcerati sunt
ab inimico
et solve ligatos
quos divina vis salvare vult.

O iter fortissimum,
quod penetravit omnia
in altissimis et in terrenis
et in omnibus abyssis,
tu omnes componis et colligis.

De te nubes fluunt, ether volat,
lapides humorem habent
aque rivulos educunt,
et terra viriditatem sudat.
Tu etiam semper educis doctos
per inspirationem Sapientie letificatos.

Unde laus tibi sit,
qui es sonus laudis
et gaudium vite
spes et honor fortissimus
dans premia lucis.

O fire

O fire of the Paraclete,
the life of every creature's life:
you are holy in giving life to forms;

You are holy anointing
the severely injured,
holy in cleansing
loathsome wounds.

O vent of holiness,
fire of charity,
O sweet taste in our bodies
and infusion in our hearts
of the fragrance of all virtues.

O clearest fountain,
in which is shown
how God gathers together those who wander
and seeks those who are lost.

O shield of life
and hope of all our limbs' union,
O belt of honour:
save those who are blessed.

Guard those who have been imprisoned
by the enemy,
release those in bondage
whom divine power wills to save.

O boldest path,
penetrating into all places,
on high and on earth,
and in every abyss:
you fit and gather all together.

From you the clouds issue and the air soars,
the rock have their humors
and the waters bring forth their streams
and the earth sweats out green things growing.
And always you teach the learned,
those made happy by the inspiration of Wisdom

So let there be praise to you
who are the sound of all praise
and the joy of life
who are hope and powerful honor,
granting the gifts of light.