



August 24, 2008 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Quarry of God's Justice

A Green Litany from the City, based on Isaiah 51:1

Leader: Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek our God.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

People: **For by the grace of God,
we, like the stone the builders rejected,
have become part of that cornerstone
hewn from the quarry of God's justice and might.**

Leader: May the temporal structures we build
from rock, stone, brick and mortar
Reflect the divine intent of our lives
to be built into temples of God's Holy Spirit.

As we seek to shelter God's Spirit,
may we also seek to shelter the needs among and within us:

People: **Creating homes for the homeless,
schools with quality education for all,
hospitals with affordable, accessible care for all,
industry and jobs that affirm rather than negate life.**

Leader: As we seek to shelter God's Spirit,
may we also seek to shelter the needs among and within us:

People: **Ridding our air and soil of toxic fumes and waste;
our apartments of toxic mold and spores;
our language and behavior of toxic words and deeds;
so that we may breathe the fresh exhilaration
of new life in God.**

Leader: As we seek to shelter God's Spirit,
may we also seek to shelter the needs among and within us:

People: That children may play on soft grass rather than cold concrete;
that gardens may flourish where paved alleys once stood;
that fruits and vegetables may grow from city rooftops;
and that all who hunger may be fed
from the loving labor of our hands.

Leader: For by the grace of God, you,
like the stone the builders rejected,
have become part of that cornerstone,
from which the whole structure is joined together
and grows into a holy temple of God.

Unison: Listen, you who pursue righteousness and seek our God.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

From the Quarry of God's Justice was written by the Reverend Dr. Arnold Isidore Thomas, Minister of Education at the Riverside Church in the City of New York.



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