The churches of Palos Heights come together for
a service of Thanksgiving and Celebration for Palos Heights
July 5, 2009
3:00 pm

* indicates congregation stands

Opening

Words of Welcome Mayor Bob Straz

God Bless America Jubilee Choir

*Prayer of Invocation Rev. Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos, Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church

Psalm 145 Rev. Phil Tjoelker, Providence United Reformed Church

For the dawning of the light,
for the sun at mid-day,
for the shade of the evening,
we give thanks to our God.

For the rising of the moon,
for the guiding stars,
for the comets on cue,
we give thanks to our God.

For the breaking of the fast,
for noontide’s refreshment,
for the meal round the table,
we give thanks to our God.

For the greening of the woodland,
for the grains of the harvest,
for the fruits in their season,
we give thanks to our God.

For the cry of the baby,
for the flowering of youth,
for the strength of maturity,
we give thanks to our God.

For laws that protect us,
for those on alert,
for the routines of safety,
we give thanks to our God.

For the fall of the autumn,
for the quiet of winter,
For the boundary of death,
we give thanks to our God.
For the trust of friends,
for the blessings of home,
for the covenants of love,
we give thanks to our God.

For the unfailingly generous,
for the wisdom of years,
for constant compassion,
we give thanks to our God.

For the hidden who serve us,
for the water and power
for work taken for granted,
we give thanks to our God.

God of good gifts, surprise us again with how reliable you are. Thank you for the trustworthiness of so many people in their repeated tasks for the benefit of the whole community. We touch a mystery unsearchable and wonderful, the marvel of the everyday. And you, O God, are constant and faithful, abundant in steadfast love, passionate and limitless in the giving of yourself to us and all the world, partners as we are in your covenant of creation.

*O God Our Help In Ages Past*
Thanksgiving for Past Blessings

Eternal God Beyond All Time, vs. 1
Jubilee Choir

Eternal God beyond all time, to you we sing our hymn of praise.
Your love has blessed our passing years, your grace still sanctifies our days.
Your guiding steps through all our youth have shown a blest and brilliant way.
We thank you for the heritage of faith that brings us to this day.

Historical Meditation: Acts 2 to Palos Heights
Dr. Steven Timmermans, Trinity Christian College

Prayer of Response
Rev. Eun-Hae Chung, Palos United Methodist Church

*Now Thank We All Our God

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1 Now thank we all our God
who won-drous things has done,
with count-less gifts of love,
and free us from all ills of this world in the next.

2 O may this boun-teous God
with ev - er joy - ful hearts
to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and still is ours to - day.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Son and Spir-it blest,
the one e - ter-nal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

4 We thank you for the heritage of faith
the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
who from our moth-ers’ arms has blessed us on our way
with his world re - joic - es;

5 We thank you for the blessing
the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
who from our moth-ers’ arms has blessed us on our way
with heart and hands and voic - es,
A Call to Trust and Commitment in the Present

Eternal God Beyond All Time vs. 2  
Eternal God of present days, you give us vision, wisdom, youth.  
We thank you for the learning task that ever celebrates your truth.  
In darkest turmoil of these days renew our spirits with your Word.  
May every gift and skill be used to serve the kingdom of our Lord.  

Jubilee Choir

Meditation: Jubilee  
Fr. Ed Cronin, St. Alexander Catholic Church

Prayer of Response  
Dr. Wayne A. Basch, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Jesus Loves Me  
Children’s Chime Choir, Providence United Reformed Church

Celebrating Our Unfolding Community

Eternal God Beyond All Time vs. 3  
Eternal God of future hope, teach us your truth and guide our lives  
to find solutions through the years wherever conflicts may arise.  
We offer now our hearts to you, our wills and actions to your claim.  
Help us to live a fruitful life that brings all glory to your name.

Meditation: Video Montage

Prayer of Response  
Pastor Mary Gaye Steele, Life Church of Chicagoland

Mighty to Save  
Moraine Valley Baptist Church Youth Band

Closing

*Prayer of Benediction  
President Steve Timmermans, Trinity Christian College

*God, Bless Your Church with Strength!

Organist/Pianist: HyoJin Moon  
Director of Jubilee Choir: Deborah Williams
God, Bless Your Church with Strength!

God, bless Your church with strength! Wherever we may be,
God, bless Your church with life! May all our branches thrive,
God, bless Your church with hope! Despite chaotic days,

Upbuild Your servants as we work in common ministry.
Unblethed, wholesome, bearing fruit, abundantly alive.
May we in chaos shine to light a pathway through life’s maze.

Urge us from fledgling faith to venture and to soar
From You, one holy vine, in freedom may we grow;
May justice be our aim, and kindness ours to share,

Through open skies, to sing the praise of Christ whom we adore
Sustain us in our mission, Lord, Your love and peace to show.
In humbleness O may we walk, assured our God is there!

Text: John A. Dalles

DIademata S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868