THE PRAYER OF THE COMMUNITY

Wellesley College Chapel
February 7, 1971
The Rev. H. Paul Santmire

VERSICLES (Spoken responsively) W.H. Auden

He is the Way.
FOLLOW HIM THROUGH THE LAND OF UNLIKENESS;
YOU WILL SEE RARE BEASTS, AND HAVE UNIQUE ADVENTURES.
He is the Truth.
SEEK HIM IN THE KINGDOM OF ANXIETY;
YOU WILL COME TO A GREAT CITY THAT HAS EXPECTED
YOUR RETURN FOR YEARS.
He is the Life.
LOVE HIM IN THE WORLD OF FLESH;
AND AT YOUR MARRIAGE ALL ITS OCCASIONS SHALL DANCE FOR JOY.

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Let us pray for adventures. Lord, you know how dull and drab so much of our things are, the grades, the scholarly brownie points, and all the rest. Show us anew how to do your thing, to give ourselves, to lose ourselves in love, and so to find that excitement and that contentment which passes all understanding. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Let us pray for the great city of peace and justice. Lord, we remember the plight of our brothers and sisters around the world who suffer under the evils of war and injustice: in the jails of Brazil and Haiti; in the legal bondage of Angola and South Africa; in the ghettos of Russia and the refugee camps of Palestine; in the streets of Cairo, Illinois and many other American streets. Hurry the Day of your great city, Lord, and create in us a new mind and a new heart so we may work to make your dream come true. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Let us pray for the world of flesh. Lord, we'd love to dance for joy in our flesh, to savor our bodies, to be in touch with our inmost vitalities, to truly see and know the tree and the sun and the moon and the snow. We need your Spirit, Lord, to learn the foolishness of discipleship, so that again and again we may dance, trusting the world to your providence. Even more, Lord, in teaching us to dance, we pray you to join with us in our fleshly feast, even as you have joined with us once and for all in the flesh of our Lord and Messiah, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Let us pray as our Lord taught us to pray.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.