

## **Robert Hunt**

Robert Hunt was born in England around 1568. He was a parish priest in Reculver, Kent, beginning in 1594, and in 1604 became vicar of Heathfield Parish in the Diocese of Chichester.

In 1607, Hunt accompanied Captain John Smith and the Jamestown colonists, serving as their priest and chaplain. The first celebration of the Holy Eucharist recorded in North America took place on May 24, 1607, and Hunt is believed to have presided. Captain Smith's diary notes another celebration of the Holy Eucharist on June 21, 1607, and Hunt is more clearly indicated as the presiding priest.

In Captain Smith's journal, the following tribute to Robert Hunt and his ministry may be found: "He was an honest, religious and courageous divine. He preferred the service of God in so good a voyage to every thought of ease at home. He endured every privation, yet none ever heard him repine. During his life our factions were oft healed and our great extremities so comforted that they seemed easy in comparison with what we endured after his memorable death. We all received from him the Holy

Communion as a pledge of reconciliation for we all loved him for his exceeding goodness."

Hunt died sometime prior to April 10, 1608. A memorial has been erected by the National Park Service in Historic Jamestown.

*Leader:* Peace on each one who comes in need,  
*All:* ***Peace on each one who comes in joy.***

*Leader:* Peace on each one who offers prayers,  
*All:* ***Peace on each one who offers song.***

*Leader:* Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son,  
*All:* ***Peace of the Spirit, the triune one.***

#### **Psalm 24 Her World**

This world and its life is sacred;  
the very flesh of the Holy One.  
She birthed it, breathed her own life into it  
set in motion the evolution of its life.

Who now can stand before Her?  
Those with open hearts  
who love the truth and care for the world  
They will be blessed.  
Fling open the doors of your heart!  
Open your being to God  
You will know joy and peace.

Christine Robinson <http://doubterpsalms.blogspot.com/>

*Leader:* O God, for your love for us, warm and brooding, which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes to the wonder and beauty of creation,

*All:* ***We give you thanks.***

*Leader:* For your love for us, wild and freeing, which has awakened us to the energy of creation: to the sap that flows, the blood that pulses, the heart that sings,

*All:* ***We give you thanks.***

*Leader:* For your love for us, compassionate and patient, which has carried us through our pain, wept beside us in our sin, and waited with us in our confusion,

*All:* ***We give you thanks.***

*Leader:* For your love for us, strong and challenging, which has called us to risk for you, asked for the best in us, and shown us how to serve,

*All:* ***We give you thanks.***

*Leader:* O God we come to celebrate that your Holy Spirit is present deep within us, and at the heart of all life. Forgive us when we forget your gift of love made known to us in Jesus, and draw us into your presence.

## **Matthew 5:21–24**

‘You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not murder”; and “whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, “You fool”, you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

### ***Sharing of the day***

#### ***Prayer***

*Leader:* We bring to God someone whom we have met or remembered today and for whom we want to pray; Holy One, ***We ask your blessing.***

*Leader:* We bring to God someone who is hurting tonight and needs our prayer; \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy One, ***We ask your blessing.***

*Leader:* We bring to God a troubled situation in our world tonight \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy One, ***We ask your blessing.***

*Leader:* We bring to God, silently, someone whom we find hard to like or forgive or trust  
Holy One, ***We ask your blessing.***

*Leader:* We bring ourselves to God that we might grow in generosity of spirit,

clarity of mind, and warmth of affection. Holy One, *We ask your blessing.*

***Closing responses***

*Leader:* O Trinity of Love, You have been with us at the world's beginning,

*All:* ***Be with us till the world's end.***

*Leader:* You have been with us at our life's shaping,

*All:* ***Be with us at our life's end.***

*Leader:* You have been with us at the sun's rising

*All:* ***Be with us till the day's end. Amen***

*All:*

**Lord make me an instrument of your peace**

**Where there is hatred let me sow love.**

**Where there is injury, pardon.**

**Where there is doubt, faith.**

**Where there is despair, hope.**

**Where there is darkness, light.**

**Where there is sadness joy.**

**O Divine master grant that I may**

**Not so much seek to be consoled as to  
console**

**To be understood, as to understand.**

**To be loved, as to love**

**For it is in giving that we receive**

**And it is in pardoning that we are**

**pardoned**

**And it is in dying that we are born**

**To eternal life. Amen**

*Leader:* And now may the God of hope bring us such joy and peace in believing that we overflow with hope in the power of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen***