

O Christ Who Made Himself
the Servant of All,
I would set my heart
and my affections upon you—
and upon you alone—for I can only
serve others rightly when such service
is undertaken from first to last as
an act of devotion offered to you.

In serving you, I am freed from my
need for the praise of others. So that
even if my kindnesses are shed from
scarred hearts as rain from a sloped
tin roof, my joy will not be dimmed,
for I will know that you have received
and remembered each act of sacrifice,
and reckoned it as a love rendered to you.

So let my love be sincere,
and let my service be fearless, O Lord.

I would serve in imitation of you, who
poured out your life for me. I would serve
knowing that your Spirit is ever at work in the
lives of those I serve, ever calling, ever drawing,
ever seeking to soften hearts encased in fear and
disappointment and anger and idolatry.
So let my kindnesses and sacrifice fall
like warm shafts of sunlight on icy ground.

I cannot know the end of another person's story.
Our lives so often only briefly intersect. So let
me be content to minister regardless of visible
outcomes, trusting that the small mercies I
extend will be woven into the larger theme of
redemption at work in the lives of others as you
woo them to yourself, drawing their hearts
by graces offered, and shaping my own heart too
in this process of learning to serve well, and
by learning to serve well, learning to love well.

Amen.

A LITURGY BEFORE

Serving Others

FROM THE BOOK
EVERY MOMENT HOLY
COPYRIGHT © 2017
DOUGLAS MCKELVEY

HAVE THIS MIND AMONG
YOURSELVES, WHICH IS
YOURS IN CHRIST JESUS,
WHO, THOUGH HE WAS IN
THE FORM OF GOD, DID
NOT COUNT EQUALITY
WITH GOD A THING TO BE
GRASPED, BUT EMPTIED
HIMSELF, BY TAKING THE
FORM OF A SERVANT,
BEING BORN IN THE
LIKENESS OF MEN. AND
BEING FOUND IN HUMAN
FORM, HE HUMBLING
HIMSELF BY BECOMING
OBEDIENT TO THE POINT
OF DEATH, EVEN DEATH
ON A CROSS.
PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

COPYRIGHT © 2017 DOUGLAS MCKELVEY
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS LITURGY, VISIT;
WWW.EVERYMOMENTHOLY.COM

Prepared exclusively for bvosler@gmail.com Transaction: RRS-66778

DO NOTHING FROM
SELFISH AMBITION
OR CONCEIT, BUT IN
HUMILITY COUNT OTHERS
MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN
YOURSELVES. LET EACH OF
YOU LOOK NOT ONLY TO
HIS OWN INTERESTS, BUT
ALSO TO THE INTERESTS
OF OTHERS.
PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

COPYRIGHT © 2017 DOUGLAS MCKELVEY
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS LITURGY, VISIT;
WWW.EVERYMOMENTHOLY.COM