



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

August 2, 2015 (Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Leader

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.

L: In the sight of their fathers He performed wonders,
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

*R: He divided the sea and let them pass through it,
and made the waters stand like a heap.*

L: In the daytime He led them with a cloud,
and all the night with a fiery light.

*R: He split rocks in the wilderness,
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.*

L: He commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven;
He rained down on them manna to eat, and gave them the grain of heaven.

*R: Mortals ate of the bread of angels; He sent them food in
abundance.*

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
His greatness is unsearchable!

One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. They tell of the glory of Your kingdom, and speak of Your might. All Your works shall praise You, O LORD; and we, Your faithful people, shall bless You.

— from Psalm 78:1-4, 12-15, 23-25; 145:3-5, 10



Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship,
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess You are God;
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now.

Chorus

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives;
Willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength
We gladly praise You now.

One day every tongue will confess You are God;
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now.

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Come, Christians, Join to Sing (verse 2)

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!



He is our guide and friend, to us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Public domain. Words, Christian H. Bateman (*Sacred Melodies for Children*, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843). Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody.

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

How Great is our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty:
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice.

Chorus

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God;
And all will see how great,
How great is our God.

Verse 2

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands:
Beginning and the End, beginning and the End.
The Godhead Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, Lion and the Lamb.

Bridge

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing, How great is our God.

You're the name above all names,
You're worthy of all praise,
My heart will sing how great is our God.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

This is the life worthy of the calling with which He has called us:

With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love;

And making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace –

**There is one body and one Spirit,
Just as we were called in one hope of our calling;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.**

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high, He made captivity itself a captive; and He gave gifts to His people."

The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the works of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of full stature of Christ.

We must be no longer children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

But speaking the truth in love, we grow up in all things into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint and ligament supplies, as each part is working properly, grows and builds itself up in love.

– from Ephesians 4:1-16

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

– Psalm 34:17, 18



Create in Me a Clean Heart

Carl F. Mueller (1892-1982)

Cantor: Create in me a clean heart, O God
People: Create in me a clean heart, O God
Cantor: And renew a right spirit within me
People: And renew a right spirit within me
All: Cast me not away from Thy presence
And take not Thy holy spirit from me.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Against You, You alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in
Your sight; so that You are justified in Your sentence
and upright in Your judgment.**

[Silence]

Surely, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and a sinner from my mother's womb.

**Yet behold, You desire truth in my inward being;
therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**Make me to hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken
may rejoice. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation
and sustain me with a willing spirit.**

– Psalm 51:1-8,12

Refrain (*Create in Me a Clean Heart*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.*

Thus says the high and exalted One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place, and with the contrite and lowly of spirit, in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."

– Isaiah 57:15, Psalm 51:15-17



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise
Answering the call to holiness

The Heart of Worship

When the music fades, all is stripped away,
And I simply come;
Longing just to bring something that's of worth,
That will bless Your heart.

Bridge:

I'll bring You more than a song,
For a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.

Chorus:

I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about You,
All about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.

Verse 2:

King of endless worth, no one could express
How much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor, all I have is Yours,
Every single breath.

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THE WORD

Ephesians 4:1-16

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ





The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
Forever. Amen**

Jesus is Lord

"Jesus is Lord," the cry that echoes through creation;
Resplendent pow'r, eternal Word, our Rock.
The Son of God, the King, whose glory fills the heavens,
Yet bids us come to taste this living bread.

Jesus is Lord, whose voice sustains the stars and planets;
Yet, in His wisdom, laid aside His crown.
Jesus, the man who washed our feet, who bore our suff'ring,
Became a curse to bring salvation's plan.

Jesus is Lord, the tomb is gloriously empty!
Not even death could crush this King of love!
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and we're forgiven,
And we can run into the arms of God.

"Jesus is Lord," a shout of joy, a cry of anguish,
As He returns, and ev'ry knee bows low.
Then ev'ry eye and ev'ry heart will see His glory;
The Judge of all will take His children home.



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Come, Christians, Join to Sing (verse 3)

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

Benediction:

Beloved, we go forth into the world in joy to love and serve the Lord, strengthened and equipped by worship that sings, preaches, and enacts the whole story of God. **Amen.**

And now, Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that Your people, illumined by Your word and Table, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that He may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship...

"God's story has a happy ending. It is in fact the drama of human existence. It is not only the story of God who creates and of God who becomes involved in creation to rescue it through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, it is also the story of the end of history and the forever thereafter. . . . Sunday worship that is true to what the Christian faith is points to the hope of the world—the expectancy that Christ will come to deliver the ultimate blow to all the powers of evil, destroying them forever. He will establish the new heavens and new earth. He will reign forever over his redeemed creation. His shalom will rest over all he has made." (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 173-174).

Lectionary for next week: 2 Samuel 18:5-6,15,31-33; Psalm 130; 1 Kings 19:4-8;
Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35,41-51

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

Sunday mornings at The Carmichael Chapel, 4600 Winding Way
(Corner of Winding Way and Pasadena), Sacramento, CA 95841.

Informal gathering: 10:00 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM.

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