

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

March 20, 2016 (Liturgy of the Palms)

GATHERING

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

— Zechariah 9:9

When Jesus had come near the Mount of Olives, on His way to Jerusalem, He sent ahead two of His disciples.

He said, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this: ‘The Lord needs it.’”

So those who were sent departed, and found it as He had told them.

As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

As He was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles they had seen, saying,

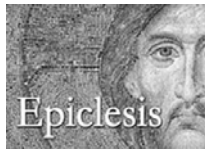
“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

But Jesus answered them, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would cry out.”

— Luke 19:28-40





PROCESSION INTO THE CHAPEL

We Will Glorify

We will glorify the King of kings,
We will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords,
Who is the great I Am.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty; we will bow before His throne.
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth; He is Lord of all who live.
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.

Hosanna to the King of kings, Hosanna to the Lamb;
Hosanna to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am.

CCLI Song #19038. ©1982 New Spring, Twila Paris. CCLI License # 3097801.

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good:

For His steadfast love endures forever.

**Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.**

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

**I thank You that You have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna, O LORD! Prosper us, O LORD, in Your victory!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD.

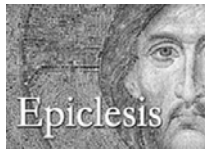
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and He has given us light. Bind the festal
procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are God, and we will give thanks to You;

You are our God, we will extol You.

– from Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29



All Glory, Laud and Honor

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels is praising Thee on high,
And mortal men and all things created make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present.

To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the praise we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.

Setting: © Ellen Koehler 2011. Hymn tune: Melchior Teschner;
Text: Theodulph of Orleans, trans. John M. Neale.

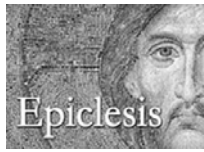
INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Sung (*We Will Glorify*):

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty;
We will bow before His throne.
We will worship Him in righteousness,
We will worship Him alone.





PROFESSION OF FAITH

The word of the Lord:

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world, and who is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature.

*When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
born a descendant of David according to the flesh;
born of a woman, born under the Law,
in the likeness of sinful flesh, to be an offering for our sin;
so that He might redeem us,
that we might receive adoption as His children.*

God also highly exalted Him

**and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

— from Hebrews 1:1-3; Romans 1:3,8:3-4; Galatians 4:3-4, Philippians 2:9-11

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

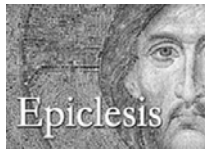
Righteous God of all time, You have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We have joyfully praised Him with shouts of “Hosanna!” Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him, nor follow Him with our whole hearts.

[Silence]

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Help us to lay at Your feet all that we have and all that we are,
trusting You to forgive and cleanse what is sinful, to heal what is
broken and to receive us as Your own.**

[Silent confessions]



**Draw us near the foot of the cross, that, dying and rising with Him,
we may walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.
Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

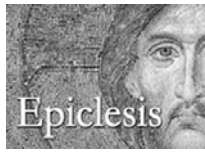
Hear the word of the Lord from Psalm 118.
This is God's promise of pardon and love:

Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

**Out of my distress I called upon the LORD;
I sought the LORD and He answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
The LORD is my strength and my song;
He has become my salvation.
I shall not die, but I shall live,
and declare the deeds of the LORD.**

– from Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

Thanks be to God!



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Jesus said, "If these people were to keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out!"

Lord, we lift our voices in praise to You! May our lives and our offerings resound as worship and reflections of Your love.

Holy

I will lift my voice, and I will sing,
I will sing holy, holy.
To my Lord and Savior, my God and King:
I will sing holy, holy

Chorus:

I will praise the Lamb of God who sits upon the throne.
I will worship Him, and give the praise to Him alone.
He who was and is and is to come:
I will sing before His throne forever, forever.

All the angels sing, and they bow down, and they sing holy, holy.
We, Your sons and daughters, we praise You now:
And we cry holy, holy.

Chorus

Holy, holy. Holy, holy . . .

Donnie McClurkin. ©2003 Seven Summits Music and Don Mac Music.

THE WORD

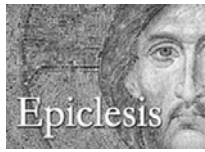
Luke 19:28-40

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 (sung)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heav'n.
Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours.
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

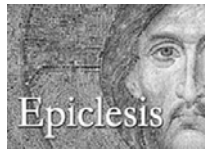
Fullness of Grace

Fullness of grace in man's human frailty,
This is the wonder of Jesus.
Laying aside His power and glory,
Humbly He entered our world.
Chose the path of meanest worth;
Scandal of a virgin birth.
Born in a stable, cold and rejected;
Here lies the hope of the world.

Fullness of grace, the love of the Father
Shown in the face of Jesus.
Stooping to bear the weight of humanity,
Walking the Calvary road.
Christ the holy innocent took our sin and punishment.
Fullness of God, despised and rejected;
Crushed for the sins of the world.

Fullness of hope in Christ we had longed for,
Promise of God in Jesus.
Through His obedience we are forgiven,
Op'ning the floodgates of heav'n.
All our hopes and dreams we bring, gladly as an offering.
Fullness of life and joy unspeakable:
God's gift in love to the world.

CCLI Song #4411752 ©2004 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (verse 3)

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav’n, our King;
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!

Text: Jenette Threlfall. Tune: ELLACOMBE; from *Gesangbuch der Herzogl*, Württemberg 1784

Benediction:

Now brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to live out our baptisms, loving and serving the Lord.

**Just as we have carried these branches, and in praise declared
Jesus Messiah and King, may we now follow Christ in the way
of the cross.**

As we journey with Him in this week of remembrance and hope, let us take on His likeness, for the honor of His holy name, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

A thought about worship... “We should not look on Palm Sunday simply as a day to recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is that, but it is more. It is our own entry into the most solemn yet the most glorious experience of spirituality. For Jesus, Palm Sunday was his gateway to the culminating events of his earthly life. As we enter that gate with him, our spiritual lives are being ordered into the most sacred moments of the history of the world and of our own experience with the meaning of human existence.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality Through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 116-117.)

Lectionary for next week: Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18; Luke 24:1-12

(Readings for each day of Holy Week can be found at The Revised Common Lectionary:
<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>)

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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