

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

September 11, 2016 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart;  
tell of all His wonderful works.

**We will be glad and exult in Him;**

**and sing praises to the name of the Most High.**

Bow down toward His holy temple in worship, and give thanks  
to His name for His steadfast love and faithfulness.

**For He has exalted His name and His word above all things.**

**On the day I called, He answered me;**

**He increased the strength of my soul.**

The LORD will fulfill His purpose for us;

**He will not forsake the work of His hands;**

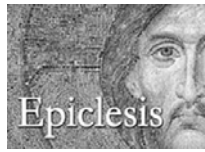
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

O give thanks to the LORD and sing of His ways,  
for great is the glory of the LORD!

— from Psalm 138



Mount Zion, David Johnson, 2011



*Immortal Invisible (Your Great Name We Praise)*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes.  
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 2*

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light;  
Not wanting or wasting, You rule us in might.  
Your justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

*Chorus*

Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 3*

All life comes from You, Lord, to both great and small;  
In all life You live, Lord, the true Life of all.  
We blossom and flourish but quickly grow frail;  
We wither and perish, but You never fail.

*Verse 4*

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light;  
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we will render, oh Father of Grace;  
Till one day in splendor we see face to face.

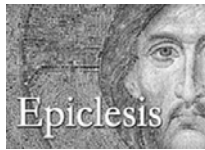
CCLI Song #4088941 © 2001 Sovereign Grace Praise;  
Bob Kauflin | Walter Chalmers Smith. CCLI License # 3097801

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.



Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2015. Words: Reginald Heber, 1826; Music: John B. Dykes, 1861

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

**For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.**

This is the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance  
in the saints, and the surpassing greatness of His power toward us  
who believe:

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,  
that we would be holy and blameless before Him;

*In love, He predestined us to adoption as His children,  
in accordance with His pleasure and His will;*

In Him we have redemption through His blood,  
the forgiveness of our sins, according to His grace;

*He has made known to us the mystery of His will,  
to bring all things in heaven and on earth into unity in Christ;*

Having believed in Him, we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of  
promise, the guarantee of our inheritance in Him, to the praise of  
His glory.

*In the exceeding greatness of His power, He raised Christ from the  
dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,  
far above all principality and power and might and dominion,  
and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in  
the age to come.*

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places in Christ. To Him be glory forever!**

— from Romans 11:33, 36 and Ephesians 1:3-21



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The Psalmist attests:

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

*The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of men  
to see if there are any who are wise,  
who seek after God.*

– Psalm 14:1a, 2

Though the LORD is exalted,

Yet He regards the lowly, but the proud He knows from afar.

– Psalm 138:6

Refrain:

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

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.

Carl F. Mueller (1892-1982)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness;  
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;  
and so 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.  
Hide Your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.**

– Psalm 51:1-10

Refrain (*Create in Me a Clean Heart*)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Therefore, beloved, we hold fast to these sure promises of our God:

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,  
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

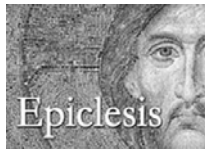
If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve Me  
and stand before Me.

**Thanks be to God, from whom we have received mercy and  
overflowing grace, along with the faith and love that are in  
Christ Jesus.**

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God,  
be honor and glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

– from 1 Timothy 1:12-17, 1 John 1:9, Jeremiah 15:19



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

### *Take My Life*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

### *Verse 2*

Take my voice and let me sing always only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.  
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use ev'ry power as Your choose.

### *Chorus:*

Here am I, all of me;  
Take my life, it's all for Thee.

### *Verse 3*

Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Your feet its treasure store.  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

CCLI Song #4162843; ©2003 worshiptogether.com songs; Tomlin/Hevergal/Malan/Giglio

## THE WORD

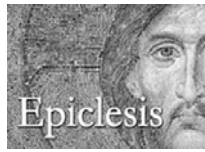
### Psalm 51

## 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.**

*Lord, Have Mercy*

Jesus, I've forgotten the words that You have spoken,  
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim.  
With a doubting heart I follow the paths of earthly wisdom;  
Forgive me for my unbelief, renew the fire again.

*Chorus:*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy on me.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy on me.

*Verse 2:*

I have built an altar where I've worshipped things of man;  
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from You.  
Now I am returning to Your mercies ever flowing;  
Pardon my transgressions, help me love You again.

*Verse 3:*

I have longed to know You, and all Your tender mercies,  
Like a river of forgiveness, ever flowing without end.  
So I bow my heart before You in the goodness of Your presence,  
Your grace forever shining like a beacon in the night.

CCLI Song #2989578 ©2000 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Steve Merkel

SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body



*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

**Benediction:**

Beloved, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord – walking out our baptisms in faithfulness – may we have such an awareness of His steadfast love and transforming power, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth His praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to His service and walking in the Spirit, in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Amen.**  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“We can see the complete repentance of a sinner in the fifty-first psalm. . . . When the prophet Nathan rebuked him, David replied, ‘I have sinned.’ Because he confessed his sin immediately, he was comforted by the words: ‘The Lord also hath put away thy sin.’ David had added murder to his adultery. Yet bursting into tears he said, ‘Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.’ A sin so great needed great mercy. Consequently, he went on to say: ‘Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only have I sinned’—as a king, he didn’t have anyone to fear but God— ‘and done this evil in Thy sight; that Thou mightest be justified when Thou speakest and be dear when Thou judgest.’ For ‘God hath concluded all in unbelief, that He might have mercy upon all.’ And this was how David progressed: although he was once a sinner, he became a model for us after his repentance. For he was able to say, ‘I will teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.’ For just as ‘confession and beauty are before God,’ sinners who confess their sins and say, ‘my wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness’ are cleansed from their infections. But ‘he that covereth his sins shall not prosper.’”

— Jerome

**Lectionary for next week:** Jeremiah 8:16-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113;  
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

[www.Epiclesis.org](http://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.

©2016 E.K.