

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

July 23, 2017 (Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous!

For praise is becoming to the upright.

Sing to Him a new song, and shout for joy!

For the word of the LORD is upright

and all His work is done in faithfulness.

The earth is full of His lovingkindness.

All creation declares the goodness of our God!

How blessed are those whose God is the LORD,

the people He has chosen for His own inheritance.

The LORD looks from heaven; from where He sits enthroned

**He sees all the children of men, He who fashions the hearts of
them all and observes all their deeds.**

Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,

On those who hope in His lovingkindness.

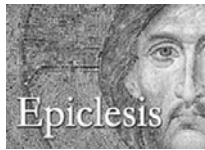
In love, He gathers His people to Him.

We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.

In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name.

— from Psalms 33, 147, 50:5





Creation Sings the Father's Song

Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day,
Till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow;
His breath upon this spinning globe;
He charts the eagle's flight,
Commands the newborn baby's cry.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship,
Tell the wonders of creation's King.

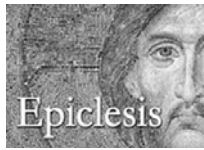
Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace,
Unveiled the Father's plan
Of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally.

Creation longs for His return,
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage
Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky,
All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme:
The glory of our God and King!

CCLI Song #5333798 ©2008 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend
CCLI License #3097801

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



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, 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!

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013. Words, Christian H. Bateman (*Sacred Melodies for Children*, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843). Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: 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 Christ before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.*

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

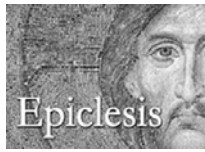
*In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace
which He lavished upon us.*

He has made known to us the mystery of His will,
that in the fullness of the times, He might gather together in one all
things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

*In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined
according to His purpose, who works all things after the counsel of
His will, to the end that we should be to the praise of His glory.*

**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 1:3-14, 18



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

You discern my thoughts from afar.

*You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.*

Even before a word is on my tongue,

O LORD, You know it completely.

You hem me in – behind and before;

You have laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,

it is so high that I cannot attain it.

– Psalm 139:1-6

[Silence]

We pray together:

**Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my
thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in
the way everlasting.**

– Psalm 139:23-24

[Silent confessions]

Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth.

Give me an undivided heart to fear Your name.

– Psalm 86:11

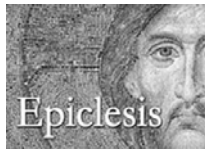
Lamb of God

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. Grant us peace. Grant us peace

CCLI Song #3204324 ©1989 Celebration. Betty Carr Pulkingham



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the Lord:

If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal
bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

*If we live according to the flesh, we will die; but if by the Spirit
we put to death the deeds of the body, we will live.*

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

We did not receive a spirit of slavery that we should fall back into fear.

*But we received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry,
“Abba, Father.”*

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit

that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs –

heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.

– from Romans 8:11-17

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

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

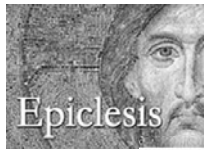
Chorus:

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 . . .



THE WORD

Matthew 13

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.



Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

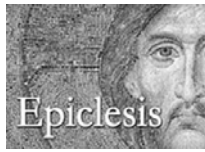
Our Father in Heaven (sung)

Our Father in heaven, Your name is holy,
Your name is holy, our Father.
Your kingdom come, and Your will be done
Here on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us, we pray, our bread for today,
Our debts forgive and in turn we will live,
Forgiving of what others owe.
Keep us from trials; save us from our ancient foe!

As we sing the kingdom, we sing the power,
We sing the glory be Yours –
Forever. Amen. Amen. Amen!

Chris Alford and Ellen Koehler . ©2014. All rights reserved.



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.

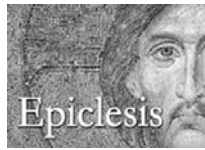
Jesus is Lord,
Whose voice sustains the stars and planets;
Yet, in His wisdom,
Laid aside His crown.
Jesus, the man
Who washed our feet, who bore our suff’ring,
Became a curse
To bring salvation’s plan.

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.

CCLI Song #3992447 ©2003 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Come, Christians, Join to Sing (reprise)

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! Alleluia! Amen!"

Benediction:

And now, as we go forth, in faith and hope, to love and serve the Lord, may He grant that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
– To Him be glory and honor, dominion and praise forever and ever!
Amen! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Live in a way that won't blaspheme the name of God. On the one hand, don't care about human reputation. On the other hand, don't give reason for others to speak poorly of you. But be moderate on both issues. As Scripture says, ‘Among whom ye shine as lights in the world.’ For Christ left us here to be lights. We are here to teach others and be like leaven in dough. We should go about as angels among people, as adults among children, as spiritual people among those who are natural. In this way they can profit as we become seeds bearing copious fruit. There is no need to speak if we shine through our lives. There is no need for teachers if we only demonstrate through our works. There would be no unbelievers if we were the Christians we should be. Everyone would convert to godliness if we generally kept the commandments of Christ, suffered through insults, allowed others to take advantage of us, blessed when we were cursed and did good when treated poorly. For example, Paul was only one man, yet how many followed him? If we were all like him, how many worlds could we have following us?”
– Chrysostom

Lectionary readings for next week: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b;
1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136;
Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

Text the word *Epiclesis* to 22828 to sign up for our weekly eNewsletter

Text the word *Connect* to (916)347-5038 to join our text alert list.

**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.

©2017 E.K.