

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 17, 2017 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Proper 19A

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the LORD, the God of all creation,
maker of heaven and earth;

**We are gathered to declare the glory, majesty,
and steadfast love of our God.**

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth:

Sing the glory of His name; tell of His deeds among the peoples;
Make His praise glorious!

**There is none like You, O LORD, nor are there any works like
Yours. All the nations You have made shall come and bow down
before You, and shall glorify Your name.**

Let the heart of those who seek the LORD be glad.

Remember His covenant forever,
the word which He commanded to a thousand generations.

**We will remember His wonderful deeds which He has done;
His marvels and His judgments are in all the earth,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.**

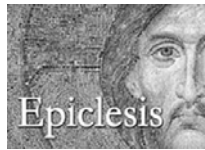
Come, let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation!

**For the LORD is good and His mercy endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations!**

—Scripture weaving from Psalms 66, 86, 100, 105



My Heart Burns, Anneli Anderson, Contemp



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.

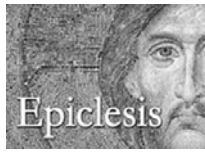
Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace,
Unveiled the Father's plan
Of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally.

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!

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



Doxology

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; transl. in Lyra Davidica, 1708, Hymn tune: Robert Williams
Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us join with the saints of the ages in our profession of faith and praise in the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried.*

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.*

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come.**

Amen.



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

“These are the ones I look on with favor,” says the Lord, “those who
are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at My word.”

– Isaiah 66:2

Most holy and loving God,

**You have called us to join Your story,
and to take our places in the unbroken stream
of Your faithful saints throughout the ages.
We have joyfully accepted Your invitation.
Yet too often we have wandered from Your path.
We have not always remained faithful,
to You or to each other.
We have not always been persistent
in the tasks You have given us,
and too often have been slow
to acknowledge Your authority.**

[Silence]

**In Your infinite mercy, forgive us and renew us,
that we may walk always in Your ways,
and fulfill our purpose in You
to the glory of Your name.**



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Bless the Lord (Refrain)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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(spoken)

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

*Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all His benefits –*

**Who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live,
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

– Psalm 103:1-5

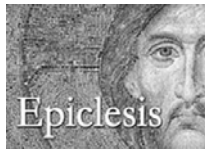
Refrain

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse, nor will He keep His anger forever.
*He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.*

**As far as the east is from the west,
so far He removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for His children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear Him.**

– Psalm 103:8-13

Refrain



TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and stories of God's faithfulness

Ancient Words

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus

Ancient words, ever true,
Changing me, changing you.
We have come with open hearts;
O let the ancient words impart.

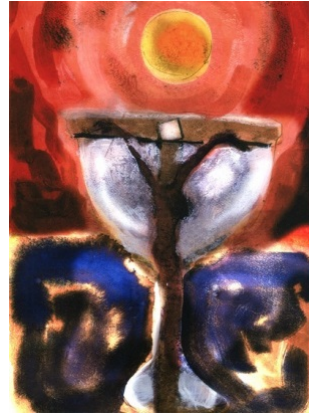
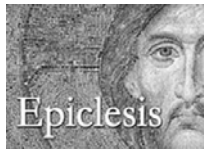
Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice; O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.

Martyrs' blood stains each page; they have died for our faith.
Hear their cry down through the years,
O heed these words and hold them dear.
Countless saints, most unknown, labored long, and alone.
Pressing on they won the prize, and gave us holy words of life.

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THE WORD

“This is what the Lord says: ‘Stand at the crossroads and look;
ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is,
and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.’” — Jeremiah 6:16 NIV



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!

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We Behold You (*Fraction Anthem*)

With all of the saints and angels, we gather before You.
Our hearts filled with thankfulness, we lift up Your holy Name.
With all who have gone before us, we feast at Your table.
We eat of Your body and drink of Your holy blood.

And we behold You, and we behold You
Lamb of God, slain for our sins.
(Repeat)

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Creation Sings the Father's Song (Refrain)

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

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.**

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...

“Worship does God's story. It proclaims God's story in the reading and preaching of the Word; in prayer, the church prays for the world God has reclaimed; in the Eucharist, the church ascends into the heavens and experiences the consummation of God's story in the new heavens and the new earth. . . . [W]orship is understood not as the acts of adoration God demands of me but as the disclosure of Jesus, who has done for me what I cannot do for myself. In this way worship is the doing of God's story within me so that I live in the pattern of Jesus's death and resurrection.” {Robert Webber, *The Divine Embrace: Recovering the Passionate Spiritual Life* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006], 232-3.)

Lectionary for next week: Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6,37-45; Jonah 3:10-4:11;
Psalm 145:1-8; Philipians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

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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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