

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy April 8, 2018 (Second Sunday of Easter)

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Haven't You Heard?

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen?

Mary was there at crack of the dawn.

Weeping, she found Him down in the garden;

Laughter is living and grieving is gone.

Chorus

Our hearts are glowing, our eyes are showing that Jesus lives!

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen? Cleopas told us. Evening drew on. Walking and talking, traveling with them, Jesus was present: now grieving is gone.

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen? Haven't you heard that Jesus goes on? Haven't you heard that Jesus is with us? Laughter is living and grieving is gone!

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Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

By His covenant love, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you:

God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.

God has claimed us as His own:

He has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, and made us with Him to be light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!



Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world, You stepped out into darkness, Opened my eyes let me see: Beauty that made this heart adore You, Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus:

So here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down, Here I am to say that You're my God. You're altogether lovely, Altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted;
Glorious in heaven above;
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature O Thou of God, and man the Son Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown



Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life.

This Life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.

We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

In this, our joy is complete!

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not walk in the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

- 1 John 1:1-7



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Reading: 1 John 1:7 - 2:2

Lord, You have called us to become Your own. We were bought with a price, the price of Your life and blood. We love You, and we want to live for You.

[Silence]

Lord, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go.

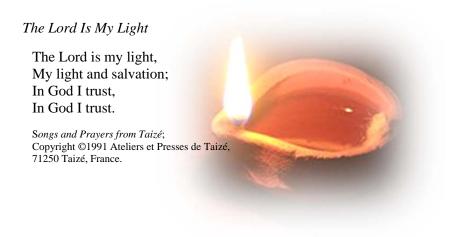
Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our soul. Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus!

[Silence]

Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine.

Let us preach You without preaching, not by words but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You.

-from a prayer by John Henry Newman





ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These are sure promises of God:

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

- Jeremiah 15:19

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

— 1 John 1:9

Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

- Ephesians 5:8

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Meditation and sharing:

"... And great grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33b)

Prayers of thanksgiving and devotion...

Lord, we are amazed at Your grace. With grateful hearts, in joyful worship, we bring Your tithes and our offerings.

What Grace Is Mine.

What grace is mine that He who dwells in endless light Called through the night to find my distant soul, And from His scars poured mercy that would plead for me That I might live, and in His name be known?

Chorus

So, I will go wherever He is calling me.
I lose my life to find my life in Him.
I give my all to gain the hope that never dies.
I bow my heart, take up my cross, and follow Him.

What grace is mine to know His breath alive in me? Beneath His wings, my wakened soul may soar. All fear can flee, for death's dark night is overcome; My Savior lives and reigns forevermore.

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THE WORD

1 John 1:1-2:2

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.

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



Beneath the Cross

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I find a place to stand; And wonder at such mercy, that calls me as I am. For hands that should discard me, hold wounds which tell me, "Come."

Beneath the cross of Jesus, my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, His fam'ly is my own.

Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one, through grace alone.

How could I now dishonor the ones that You have loved?

Beneath the cross of Jesus, see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown, We follow in His footsteps, where promised hope is found. How great the joy before us to be His perfect bride. Beneath the cross of Jesus, we will gladly live our lives.

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King of Wisdom and Light

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might: Heaven is filled with Your glory, King of wisdom and light.

We worship You, we praise You, God Most High; We worship You, we praise You, King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Haven't You Heard?

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen? Haven't you heard that Jesus goes on? Haven't you heard that Jesus is with us? Laughter is living and grieving is gone!

Our hearts are glowing, our eyes are showing that Jesus lives!

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Benediction:

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. **Amen.**

And as we go forth, walking out our baptisms, 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, forever.

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

A thought about worship...

"Who gets to narrate the world? is not a mere academic question. If Christians are to witness to God's mission to restore the world, to recover the Garden, to establish once again the communion of God's creatures within the communion and fellowship of the triune God, then we must know the narrative, proclaim it and live it—to the death if necessary. Surely, this is the most pressing issue of our time." (Robert E. Webber, Who Gets to Narrate the World? Contending for the Christian Story in an Age of Rivals [Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008], 132-133).

Lectionary for next week: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

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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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