

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

September 2, 2018 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

Our hearts are overflowing with a good theme;  
we address our verses to the King;  
our tongues are the pens of ready writers!

**O Mighty One, You are clothed in splendor and majesty!  
Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.**

You love righteousness and hate wickedness.

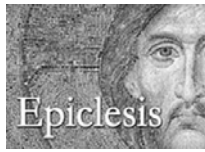
A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

**We will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;  
therefore the peoples will give You thanks forever and ever.**

— from Psalm 45



Contemplation, Sargam Griffin, Contemp.



## *Our Great God*

Eternal God, unchanging,  
Mysterious and unknown;  
Your boundless love, unfailing,  
Grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight  
Around Your glorious throne;  
They raise their voices day and night  
In praise to You alone.

### *Chorus:*

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

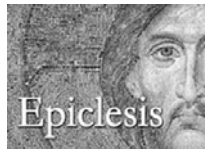
Lord, we are weak and frail,  
Helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with Your angels,  
Hold us in Your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
His pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
Before our sov'reign God.

### *Chorus*

Let ev'ry creature in the sea  
And ev'ry flying bird,  
Let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field  
And valley of the earth;  
Let all the moons and all the stars  
In all the universe  
Sing praises to the living God  
Who rules them by His Word.

### *Chorus*

CCLI Song #3493094 ©2002 New Spring | Word Music | DeJamesolo Music.  
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## PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

### *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent;  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore.

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 5<sup>th</sup> century; transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker. Hymn tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong, 11<sup>th</sup> century.  
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2015

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born  
again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
from the dead.**

In fulfillment of His own purpose He gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we could become a kind of first fruits of His creatures.  
*Because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, He made us alive together with Christ,*  
And raised us up together with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,  
*So that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

For by grace we have been saved through faith; and that not of ourselves;

*It is the gift of God, not of works so that no one may boast.*

**For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we should walk in them.**

— from 1 Peter 1:3; James 1:18; Ephesians 2:4-10



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,  
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,  
Whose walk is blameless, who do what is righteous;

[Silence]

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,  
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

*Those who speak the truth from their hearts,  
Who do no wrong to a neighbor.*

[Silence]

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,  
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

Those who honor those who fear the LORD.

[Silence]

*They shall receive a blessing from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of their salvation;  
they will never be shaken.*

This is the generation of those who seek Him,  
of those who seek Your face, O God.

— from Psalms 15 and 24

## *The Jesus Prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
Have mercy on me, a sinner.  
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

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#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen, beloved, and hear this good news of God's forgiveness  
and pardon:

There is therefore now no condemnation for those  
who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life  
in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death.

*Those who look intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty,  
and abide in it, not having become forgetful hearers  
but effectual doers, these will be blessed in what they do.*

— Romans 8:1-2, James 1:25

#### TIME OF OFFERING

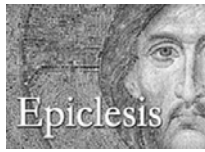
Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

**Lord, every good and perfect gift comes from You; all we have,  
and all we are, are gifts from Your gracious hand. Accept, we  
pray, our offerings and ourselves as expressions of our worship  
and thankfulness.**

#### *Open My Eyes That I May See*

Open my eyes that I may see  
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me  
Place in my hands the wonderful key  
That shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine.

Open my ears that I may hear  
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;  
And while the wave-notes fall on my ear,  
Everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my ears, illumine me,  
Spirit divine.



Open my mouth and let me bear  
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart, and let me prepare  
Love with Thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for Thee,  
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my heart, illumine me,  
Spirit divine.

Text and tune: Clara H. Scott, 1895.  
Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2011

## THE WORD

James 1

## THE TABLE

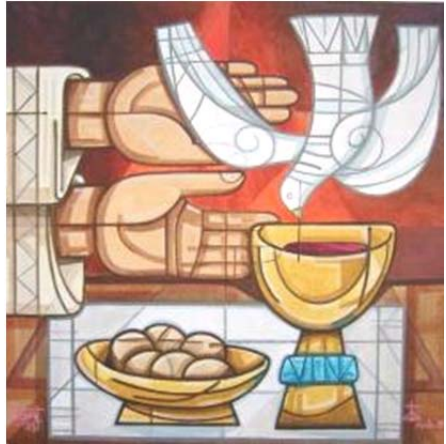
Remembering the Body of Christ

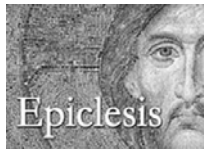
The Lord be with you!  
**And also with you!**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!**

*The Lord's Prayer* (sung)

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heav'n.  
Provide each day our daily needs;  
Forgive our sins as we forgive others' wrongs;





And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, forever and ever;  
And Thine is the power, forever and ever;  
And Thine is the glory, now and forever,  
Amen, amen, amen.

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.

### *Psalm 19*

May the words of my mouth,  
And the meditations of my heart  
Be pleasing to You, pleasing to You.  
(repeat)

#### *Chorus:*

You're my Rock and my Redeemer,  
You're the reason that I sing;  
I desire to be a blessing in Your eyes.  
Ev'ry hour, ev'ry moment,  
Lord, I want to be Your servant;  
I desire to be a blessing in Your eyes  
In Your eyes.

#### *Ending:*

May the words of my mouth,  
And the meditations of my heart  
Be pleasing to You, my God.

CCLI Song #1773823 ©1995 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing; Terry Butler

### SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

#### *Our Great God (reprise chorus)*

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!



**Benediction:**

Beloved, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, may our ears and hearts be ever attentive, attuned, and responsive to His voice; that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth His praise –as faithful doers of the word and not forgetful hearers – walking in His ways all our days.

**Amen!**

Now to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

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

***A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –***

“When we pray let our words and requests be disciplined, maintaining quietness and modesty. Let us consider ourselves as standing in God's sight. We must please the divine eyes both with the use of our body and with the tone of our voice. For, as it is characteristic for a shameless person to be noisy with his cries, it is fitting for the modest man to pray with calm requests. Moreover, the Lord told us to pray in secret, which is best suited to faith—in hidden and remote places and in our very bedrooms. Then we can know that God is present everywhere and hears and sees everything. In His abundant majesty, He enters even into hidden and secret places. It is written, ‘I am a God at hand, and not a God afar off. If a man shall hide himself in secret places, shall I not then see him? Do not I fill heaven and earth?’ And again: ‘The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.’ When we meet with believers in one place and celebrate God's sacrifice with Christ, His Priest, we should be modest and disciplined. We shouldn't throw about our prayers indiscriminately with untamed voices, nor cast a request to God with overbearing wordiness when it should be mentioned modestly. For God isn't the hearer of the voice, but of the heart.”

– Cyprian

***Lectionary for next week:*** Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125;  
Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37

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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