

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

February 25, 2018 (Second Sunday of Lent)

## GATHERING

We are gathered to worship our God, the God of Covenant,  
to tell of His greatness and to declare His name.

**In the midst of the assembly we will praise You;  
we will fulfill our vows before those who fear You.**

You who fear the LORD, praise Him.

All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,  
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel.

**You, O LORD, are the Holy One. In You our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and You delivered them.**

**To You they cried and were rescued;  
in You they trusted and were not put to shame.**

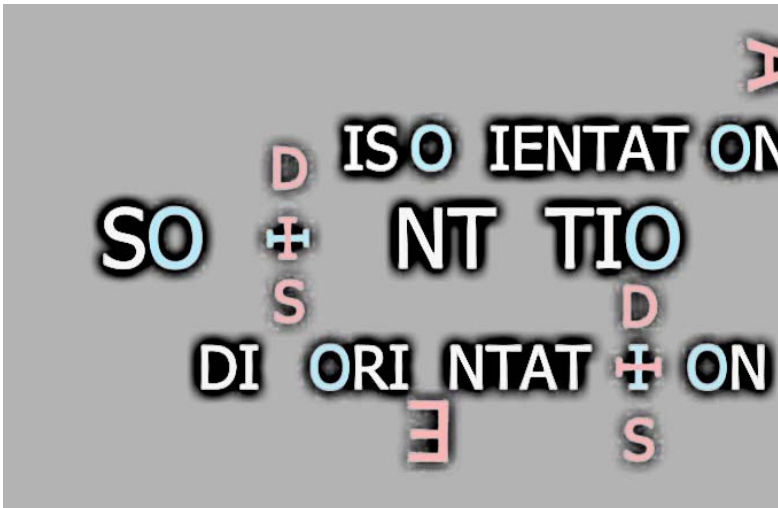
For He has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted;  
He has not turned away His face.

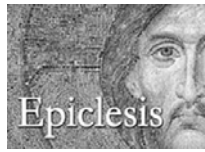
**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the earth shall worship before Him. For  
dominion belongs to the LORD and He rules over the nations.**

Posterity will serve Him; future generations will hear of the LORD:

**They will proclaim His deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
declaring that He has done it!**

—from Psalm 22:3-5, 22-31





*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

All hail the power of Jesus' name,  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred every tongue on this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all.

Words and hymn tune: public domain. Words: Edward Perronet, 1779; last verse: John Rippon, 1787. Hymn tune: CORONATION, Oliver Holden. Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2011.

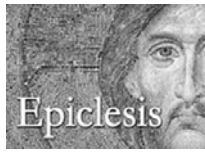
PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Christ, to Thee with God the Fa\*-ther,  
And, O Holy Ghost\*, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiv\*-ing,  
And unwearied prai\*-ses be:  
Honor, glory, and domin\*-ion  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore\*. A\*-men.

Text: Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4<sup>th</sup> century; transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker.  
Music: Plainsong, 13<sup>th</sup> century. Arr: Ellen Koehler. ©2013.



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in these words from the pen of the Apostle Paul:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,  
*From whom every family  
in heaven and on earth takes its name:*

I pray that He would grant you,  
according to the riches of His glory,  
to be strengthened with might  
by His Spirit in your inner being,  
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts  
through faith.

*And I pray that you,  
being rooted and grounded in love,  
may have the power to comprehend,  
with all the saints,  
what is the breadth  
and length  
and height  
and depth,*

And to know the love of Christ  
which surpasses knowledge,  
*That you may be filled  
with all the fullness of God.*

**Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly,  
abundantly beyond all that we ask or think,  
according to the power that works within us,  
to Him be glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus  
to all generations,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

– Ephesians 3:14-21



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession: Mark 8:34-36:

Jesus called the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become My disciples let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their soul?"

[Silence]

Almighty and loving God,

**We are Your covenant people – drawn by Your grace into relationship with You. Yet we confess that we have often failed to live as You would have us live. We have not done Your will; we have not kept Your law; we have rebelled against Your love; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Focus us on the cross and on Your covenant love, which You perfected through Him who is the Lord and King and Judge of us all, Jesus, the Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*Agnus Dei*

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.

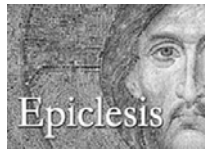
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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is God's assurance of His love and deliverance:

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. He is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who have a contrite spirit.

– Psalm 34:16, 18



I love the LORD,  
because He has heard my voice and my supplications!

*Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion!*

**He has delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears,  
our feet from stumbling. We will walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.**

– from Psalm 116:1-9

#### TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and devotion

#### *Sovereign Over Us*

There is strength within the sorrow; there is beauty in our tears.  
And You meet us in our mourning with a love that casts out fear.

You are working in our waiting, sanctifying us;  
When beyond our understanding, You're teaching us to trust.

#### *Chorus:*

Your plans are still to prosper; You've not forgotten us.  
You're with us in the fire and the flood.  
Faithful forever, perfect in love;  
You are sovereign over us.

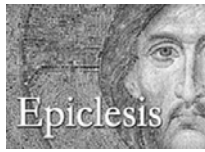
You are wisdom unimagined; Who could understand Your ways,  
Reigning high above the heavens, reaching down in endless grace?  
You're the lifter of the lowly; compassionate and kind.  
You surround and You uphold me; and Your promises are my delight.

#### *Chorus*

Even what the enemy means for evil, You turn it for our good,  
You turn it for our good and for Your glory.  
Even in the valley You are faithful; You're working for our good,  
You're working for our good and for Your glory.

#### *Chorus*

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## THE WORD

Psalm 22  
Isaiah 41:8-13



## 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!**

*The Lord's Prayer (sung)*

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your Name.  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
On earth as in heav'n.  
Give us today our daily bread;  
Forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us;  
Save us from the time of trial,  
And deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
And the glory are Yours.  
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)



### *The Solid Rock*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### *Chorus:*

On Christ the solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.  
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2010.

Text: Edward Mote, c. 1834; Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1863.

### *Agnus Dei*

Alleluia, alleluia, for our Lord God Almighty reigns. (Repeat)  
Alleluia. Holy, holy are You, Lord God Almighty.  
Worthy is the Lamb; worthy is the Lamb.  
You are holy. Holy are You, Lord God Almighty.  
Worthy is the Lamb; worthy is the Lamb; Amen.

CCLI Song #626713 ©1990 Sony/ATV Milene Music; Michael W. Smith

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body



## *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall;  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

### **Benediction:**

Brothers and sisters, as you go forth into the world to live out your baptisms, loving and serving the Lord, be encouraged to observe a holy Lent, walking in Christ's own footsteps and taking on His likeness. And as you go, remember always the promise of our loving God: "Do not fear, for I am with you; I will strengthen you, surely I will uphold you."

### **Amen!**

And now, as you continue in your Lenten journey, putting things off or taking things on as the Holy Spirit leads, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus – as we, His covenant people, follow Him on the way to the cross.

### **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

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

"To spend a long time in prayer isn't, as some think, the same thing as praying 'with much speaking.' Multiplied words are one thing, but the sustained warmth of desire is another. It is written that the Lord continued all night in prayers and that His prayer was prolonged when He was in agony. Isn't this an example for us from our Intercessor who, along with the Father, eternally hears our prayers? . . . If we are paying attention to our souls, far be it from us to use "much speaking" in prayer, or to refrain from prolonged prayer. To talk a lot in prayer is to cheapen and overuse our words while asking for something necessary. But to prolong prayer is to have our hearts throb with continual pious emotions toward the One we pray to. In most cases, prayer consists more of groaning than of speaking, of tears rather than words. He sees our tears. Our groaning isn't hidden from Him. For He made everything by a word and doesn't need human words.."

– Augustine

***Lectionary for next week:*** Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
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.

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