

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

June 24, 2018 (Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

Leader:

We are gathered to praise and give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart, and to tell of all His wonders! So let us be glad and exult in Him, and sing praises to the name of the Most High!

**The name of the LORD is a strong tower;  
the righteous run into it and are saved!**

M: Blessed be the LORD, my rock, who trains my hands for war,  
and my fingers for battle.

W: *He is my lovingkindness and my fortress,  
my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield in whom I take refuge.*

L: The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. And those who know Your name put their trust in You, for You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

M: For not in my bow do I trust, nor can my sword save me.  
But You have saved us from our foes and have put to shame those who hate us.

W: *Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear;  
though war arise against me, even then I will be confident.*

L: Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned as King forever;  
Declare His deeds among the peoples!

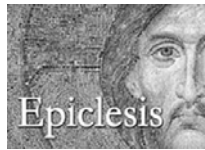
M: I will sing of Your strength;  
I will sing aloud of Your steadfast love in the morning.

W: *For You have been to me a fortress  
and a refuge in the day of distress.*

**O my Strength, I will sing praises to You, for You, O God,  
are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.**

— Scripture weaving from Psalms 9, 44, 59, 144; Prov. 18:10

we were  
2 Then our "mouth was open"  
and our tongue with shouts of joy,  
then they said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great things for them."  
3 The LORD has done great things for us;  
we are glad.  
fortunes, O LORD, 15+



### *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe –  
His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruèl hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is He –  
Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

And tho' this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him –  
His rage we can endure, For lo, his doom is sure:  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, No thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also –  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still:  
His kingdom is forever.

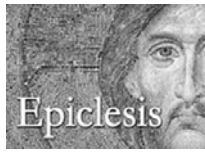
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2015 Ellen Koehler. Words and hymn tune: Martin Luther, 1529.  
Transl. from German to English by Frederic H. Hedge, 1853.

### PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

#### *You Are Lord*

You are my light and salvation,  
Whom shall I fear?  
You are the strength of all my days,  
Of whom shall I be afraid?  
Though war may rise against me,  
Of this will I be sure; that



*Chorus:*

I will bless the Lord forever, I'll bless Your holy Name.  
Yes, I will bless the Lord forever, I'll bless Your holy Name.

Lord, it is You I desire, it's You that I seek;  
To live with You in Your house forever,  
Beholding Your beauty.  
And in the time of trouble, of this will I be sure; that

*Chorus*

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## PROFESSION OF FAITH

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,  
firmly rooted and built up in Him and established in your faith,  
just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

**In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,  
and He has made us complete in Him, who is the head of all rule  
and authority, principality and power.**

*In Him we also were circumcised with a circumcision made without  
hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of  
Christ.*

**We were buried with Him in baptism, in which we were also raised  
up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised  
Him from the dead.**

When we were dead in our sins and in the uncircumcision of our flesh,  
God made us alive together with Christ.

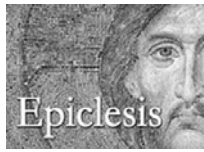
*And He forgave us all our transgressions, having cancelled out the  
certificate of debt against us with its legal demands, which was  
hostile to us.*

He set this aside, having nailed it to the cross.

*When He disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public  
display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.*

**We hold fast to the Head, Christ Jesus the Lord, from whom the  
entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and  
ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.**

– from Colossians 2:6-19



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

In You, LORD, we have taken refuge; let us never be put to shame;  
deliver us in Your righteousness.

**Turn Your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of  
refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Keep me free from the trap  
that is set for me, for You are my refuge.**

You are indeed our rock and fortress;  
for Your name's sake, lead us and guide us.

– from Psalm 31:1-5

Most merciful God, You have loved us with a love beyond our  
understanding, and You have set us on paths of righteousness  
for Your name's sake. Yet too often we have strayed from Your way.  
**We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and  
deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We  
have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our  
neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

[Silent confessions]

**For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and  
forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your  
ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.**

*The Lord Is My Light*

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation;  
In God I trust, in God I trust.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the word of the Lord from Psalm 118.

God's promise of pardon and love:

Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever."  
*Out of my distress I called upon the LORD; I sought the LORD and He  
answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.*

**The LORD is my strength and my song; He has become my  
salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and declare the deeds  
of the LORD.**

– from Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

**Thanks be to God!**



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

### *What A Beautiful Name*

You were the Word at the beginning,  
One with God, the Lord Most High.  
Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You, our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this.  
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want heaven without us,  
So, Jesus, You brought heaven down.  
My sin was great; Your love was greater.  
What could separate us now?

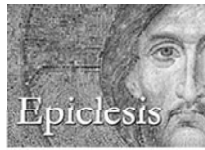
What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a wonderful Name it is; nothing compares to this:  
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.  
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You.  
You silence the boast of sin and grave.  
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory,  
For You are raised to life again.

You have no rival, You have no equal;  
Now and forever, God, You reign.  
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory;  
Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a powerful Name it is; nothing can stand against;  
What a powerful Name it is: the Name of Jesus.

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## THE WORD

2 Corinthians 6



## 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**

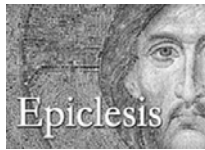
*Psalm 62 (My Soul Finds Rest)*

My soul finds rest in God alone,

My rock and my salvation;

A fortress strong against my foes,

And I will not be shaken.



Though lips may bless, and hearts may curse,  
And lies, like arrows, pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;  
I'll look to Him who hears me.

*Chorus*

O praise Him, hallelujah,  
My Delight and my Reward.  
Everlasting, never failing;  
My Redeemer, my God.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone  
Amid the world's temptations.  
When evil seeks to take a hold,  
I'll cling to my salvation.  
Though riches come, and riches go,  
Don't set your heart upon them.  
The fields of hope in which I sow  
Are harvested in heaven.

*Chorus*

I'll set my gaze on God alone,  
And trust in Him completely;  
With ev'ry day pour out my soul,  
And He will prove His mercy.  
Though life is but a fleeting breath,  
A sigh too brief to measure,  
My King has crushed the curse of death,  
And I am His forever.

*Chorus*

O praise Him, O praise Him;  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
(3 times)

*Chorus*

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SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body

*Psalm 62 (Chorus)*

*Chorus*

O praise Him, hallelujah, my Delight and my Reward.  
Everlasting, never failing: my Redeemer, my God.

Benediction:

Now as you go forth into the world, walking out your baptisms,  
to love and serve the Lord –

May you be made strong

with all the strength that comes from His glorious power,  
filled with the knowledge of His will  
in all spiritual wisdom and understanding;  
that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him,  
bearing fruit in every good work  
and growing in the knowledge of God.

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

– from Colossians 1:9-11

*A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“Behold a great and noble battle with the glorious reward of a heavenly crown. In so far as God observes us as we struggle and watches over those He has stooped to make His sons, He enjoys the spectacle of our contest. God watches us fight for our faith. His angels watch us, and Christ watches us. How great is the dignity, joy, and glory of competing and being crowned in the presence of God with Christ as the Judge! Beloved, let us be armed with our whole strength and let us be prepared for the struggle with uncorrupted minds, solid faith, and devoted courage. Let the army of God march forward to the appointed battle-field. Let the stable ones be armed, lest they be defeated. Let the backsliders also be armed, so that even they might regain what they lost. Let honor motivate all.”

– Cyprian

**Lectionary for next week:** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130; Lamentations 3:22-33;  
Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

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Informal gathering: 10:00 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM.

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