

An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
*Liturgy*  
May 12, 2019 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

## GATHERING

*Reading:* Revelation 7:9-17

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The grave is empty!

**Alleluia! He is risen indeed! The Lamb is on the throne!**

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**Worship the LORD with gladness;**

**come before Him with joyful singing.**

Know that the LORD Himself is God.

**It is He who made us and not we ourselves.**

**We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.**

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise;

Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

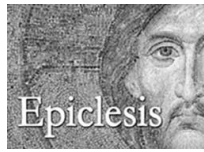
**For the LORD is good:**

**His lovingkindness is everlasting;**

**and His faithfulness continues to all generations.**

— Psalm 100





*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

Rejoice the Lord is King;  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,  
And triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!  
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!  
The Lord is King!

Jesus, the Savior reigns,  
The God of truth and love.  
When He had purged our stains,  
He took His seat above.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!  
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!  
The Lord is King!

His kingdom cannot fail;  
He rules o'er earth and heav'n.  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus giv'n.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!  
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!  
The Lord is King! The Lord is King!  
The Lord is King! The Lord is King!

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.  
Original text: Charles Wesley, 1744; original tune: John Darwall, 1770.

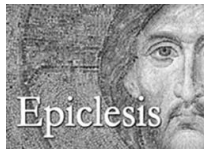
PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2015 Words: Reginald Heber, 1826; Music: John B. Dykes, 1861



*Praise Him! Praise Him!*

Praise Him, praise Him!  
Jesus, our blessed Redeemer.  
Sing, O earth,  
His wonderful love proclaim!  
Hail Him, hail Him!  
Highest archangels in glory;  
Strength and honor  
Give to His holy name.  
Like a shepherd Jesus will guard His children;  
In His arms He carries them all day long.

Praise Him, praise Him!  
Tell of His excellent greatness.  
Praise Him, praise Him  
Ever in joyful song.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1869. Music: Chester G. Allen, 1869

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

Jesus declared, in sure and true words of promise to His faithful:

I am the Good Shepherd;  
The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.  
*I am the Good Shepherd,*  
*and I know My own and My own know Me,*  
*even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father;*  
*and I lay down My life for the sheep.*

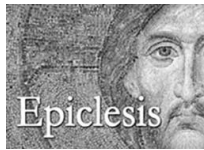
My sheep hear My voice,  
and I know them, and they follow Me.

*I give eternal life to them,*  
*and they will never perish;*  
*and no one will snatch them out of My hand.*

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all,  
and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.  
I and the Father are one.

– John 10:11, 14-15, 27-30

**Thanks be to God!**



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

To You, O LORD, we call.

**Hear the voice of our supplications when we cry to You for mercy,  
when we lift up our hands toward Your holy sanctuary.**

Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

Shepherd them also, and carry them forever.

— from Psalm 28:1-2, 9

[Silent confessions]

**O Lord, both Good Shepherd and Lamb of God, You tenderly gather us and carry us with Your all-embracing love. Yet, like sheep, we tend to wander from You, following our own ways, ignoring Your voice, distrusting Your provisions. Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust. Refresh us anew and restore our souls by Your redeeming love. Guide our paths in Your ways, that our lives may be to the praise of Your glory, always. Amen.**

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;  
O, let me from this day be wholly Thine.

May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.  
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee,  
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.

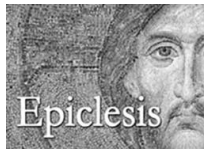
While life's dark maze I tread,  
And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my Guide; be Thou my Guide....  
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

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

Text: Ray Palmer, 1830. Hymn tune: OLIVET (MASON), Lowell Mason, 1830

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, this is the good news of God's love and salvation:



Grace to you and peace from Him who is  
and who was and who is to come,  
and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,  
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,  
the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**To Him who loves us and freed us from our sins in His blood, and  
has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to  
Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

– Revelation 1:4-5

Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and might  
be to our God forever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!** – Revelation 7:10,12

#### TIME OF OFFERING

Meditations and sharing:

“The Lamb in the center of the throne will be their Shepherd,  
and will guide them to springs of the water of life.” (Rev. 7:17)

“He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence.”  
(Rev. 7:15)

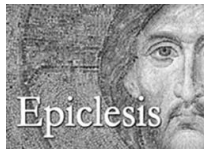
#### *You Have Been Good*

O Lord, You have been good;  
You have been faithful to all generations.  
O Lord, Your steadfast love  
And tender mercy have been our salvation.

For by Your hand we have been fed,  
And by Your Spirit we have been led.  
O Lord, You have been good;  
You have been faithful to all generations.

For by Your hand we have been fed,  
And by Your Spirit we have been led.  
O Lord, Almighty God, Father unchanging, upright and holy.

O Lord, You have been good;  
You have been faithful, You have been good.



## THE WORD

Acts 9:36-43

## 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.**

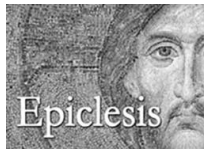
*The Lord's Prayer* (spoken)

**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.**

*Behold the Lamb*

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us:  
And we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you:  
Eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,  
Paid the price to make us one.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.



The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin, shed for you:  
Drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond,  
And to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n around the table of the King.

CCLI Song #5003372; ©2007 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

### *Holy*

I will lift my voice, and I will sing,  
I will sing holy, holy.  
To my Lord and Savior, my God and King:  
I will sing holy, holy

#### *Chorus:*

I will praise the Lamb of God who sits upon the throne.  
I will worship Him, and give the praise to Him alone.  
He who was and is and is to come:  
I will sing before His throne forever, forever.

All the angels sing, and they bow down,  
And they sing holy, holy.  
We, Your sons and daughters, we praise You now:  
And we cry holy, holy.

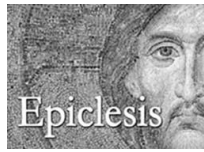
#### *Chorus*

Holy, holy; holy, holy . . .

Donnie McClurkin. ©2003 Seven Summits Music and Don Mac Music.

### SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body



*Rejoice, the Lord is King (verse 4)*

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come  
And take His servants up to their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!  
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!  
The Lord is King! The Lord is King! . . .

Benediction:

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord.  
Because He has triumphed over death, and He lives and reigns –  
the Lamb upon His throne – you also live.

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Since we have been raised with Christ, let us now go forth as His  
witnesses, loving and serving Him in the joy and victorious power of  
His resurrection.

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – bless you now and  
forever, as you go forth into the world to love and serve the risen  
Christ.

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

*A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“To those who conquer, God says, ‘I will give a crown of life.’ So be faithful to the point  
of death, and fight the good fight. The apostle Paul felt confident that this crown had been  
laid up for him. The angel also receives a crown of victory as he rides on a white horse to  
conquer. Another is adorned with an encircling rainbow of beautiful colors—a heavenly  
meadow. Similarly, the elders sit around crowned, too, with golden crowns, and the Son  
of Man glimmers above the clouds. If these things merely appear in the vision of John,  
what will it really be like when they are actually displayed? Look at the crowns. Inhale  
the fragrances. Why do you condemn the brow destined for a crown to a little garland or  
a twisted headband? For Christ Jesus has even made us kings for God, His Father.”

– Tertullian

**Lectionary for next week:** Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 12:31-35

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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