

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 12, 2020 (First Sunday after the Epiphany)

Baptism of the Lord

CALL TO WORSHIP

Amen

(traditional spiritual)

GATHERING

Lord, open our lips, and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.

**Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be ages unto ages.**

Amen.

Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness!

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;

The God of glory thunders!

The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning;

His voice shakes the wilderness!

The voice of the LORD is powerful, and full of majesty.

In His temple all say, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood,

Yes, the LORD sits enthroned as King forever.

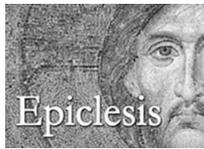
May the LORD give strength to His people.

May the LORD bless His people with peace.

Come, let us sing His praise, and give thanks to His holy name.

– from Psalm 29





All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam;
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along:
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
Ye lights of evening, find a voice.
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

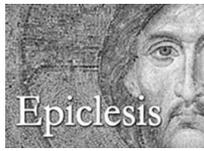
Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,
Thou givest man both warmth and light,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225; transl. William H. Draper, 1919.

Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; hymn tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



All Creatures of Our God and King

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness:
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages
in these words based on the epistles of the Apostle Paul:

Christ Jesus existed in the form of God –
for in Him all the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell.

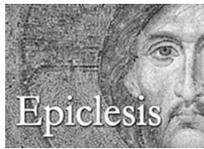
*Although He existed in the form of God,
He did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped.*

But He emptied Himself,
taking the form of a bond-servant,
being born in human likeness.

*And being found in human form,
He humbled Himself,
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.*

**For this reason God also highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee will bow,
in heaven and on earth
and under the earth,
and every tongue will confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

– from Colossians 1:19, 2:9; Philippians 2:5-11



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The call and promise of the Lord:

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean;

I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

“Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh, and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.”

– Ezekiel 36:25-27

Eternal and 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 we have strayed from your way.

[Silence]

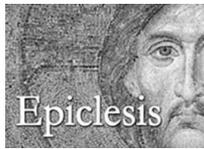
We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone,
and we have wandered from your pathway.

[Silent confessions]

As we remember the cleansing water of baptism, O God, we praise You and give You thanks that You forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with You, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

Whiter Than Snow

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
I want You forever to live in my soul.
Break down ev’ry idol, cast out ev’ry foe.
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.



Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, look down from Your throne in the skies,
And help me to make a complete sacrifice.
I give up myself and whatever I know;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, before You I patiently wait;
Come now and within me a new heart create.
To those who have sought You, You never said no.
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

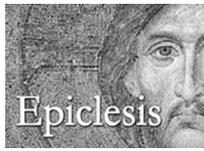
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2014. Text: James Nicholson; Music: William G. Fischer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

When the goodness and loving kindness
of God our Savior appeared, He saved us,
not because of works done by us in righteousness,
but according to His own mercy,
by the washing of regeneration
and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
whom He poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
so that being justified by His grace
we might become heirs
according to the hope of eternal life.
This is a trustworthy saying.

– Titus 3:4-5

Thanks be to God!



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and devotion

More Like Jesus

You came to the world You created,
Trading Your crown for a cross.
You willingly died, Your innocent life paid the cost.

Counting Your status as nothing,
The King of all kings came to serve;
Washing my feet, covering me with Your love.

Chorus:

If more of You means less of me, take everything.
Yes, all of You, is all I need; take everything.

You are my life and my treasure, the One that I can't live without.
Here at Your feet, my desires and dreams I lay down.
Here at Your feet, my desires and dreams I lay down.

Bridge:

O, Lord, change me like only You can.
Here with my heart in Your hands,
Father, I pray: Make me more like Jesus.
This world is dying to know who You are.
You've shown us the way to Your heart.
So, Father, I pray: Make me more like Jesus.

CCLI Song #7105732 ©SHOUT! Music Publishing | sixsteps Music | worshiptogether.com
songs. Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Kristian Stanfill, Brett Younker.

THE WORD

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29

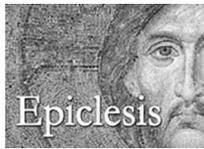
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13:17

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Passing of the Peace





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 Servant King

From heav'n You came, helpless babe,
Entered our world, Your glory veiled;
Not to be served but to serve,
And give Your life that we might live.

Chorus:

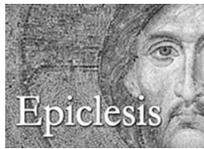
This is our God, the Servant King, He calls us now to follow Him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears, my heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn; 'Yet not my will but Yours,' He said.

Come see His hands and His feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone Him;
Each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving.

CCLI Song #78897 ©1983 Thankyou Music; Graham Kendrick. CCLI License # 3097801



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

All Creatures of Our God and King (Doxology)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below:
O Praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Benediction:

God the Father, who sent His Spirit upon His Son,
 bless you with the presence of His Spirit. **Amen.**
Jesus, who received the Spirit and manifested the Father,
 abide in you and make you a manifestation of His life. **Amen.**
And God the Spirit, who came upon Christ in the fullness of power,
 empower you to live in the pattern of baptismal spirituality
 revealed in Jesus. **Amen.**
To the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship...—“The baptized life is a life that is lived in the *pattern of death and resurrection*. . . . The way of being in Jesus, the way of living the new resurrected life, is through participation. . . . We participate in Christ by living the life of our baptism into his death and resurrection. This is a daily, existential, moment-by-moment experience as we choose in this or that situation to die to the sins for which Christ died and choose the life of the Spirit for which Christ was raised to a new life.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 146-147.)

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9;
John 1:29-42

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

Text the word **Epiclesis** to 22828 to sign up for our weekly eNewsletter
Text the word **Connect** to (916)347-5038 to join our text alert list.

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.

©2020 E.K.