

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 29, 2019 (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Leader: You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide
in the shadow of the Almighty – say to the LORD:

My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!

For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper,
and from the deadly pestilence.

*He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings
you will find refuge.*

His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
*Nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the destruction
that lays waste at noon.*

When you call on Him, He will answer.

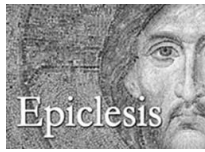
He will be with you in trouble;

He will rescue you and honor you and you will see His salvation.

Leader: “Because you have loved Me,” declares the LORD,
“I will deliver you. I will set you securely on high,
because you have known My name.”

– from Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16





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

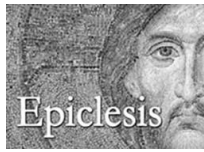
Let ev'ry creature in the sea and ev'ry flying bird,
Let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field and valley of the earth;
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God who rules them by His Word.

Chorus

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God, and man the Son;
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man:
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine.

Anon. German hymn *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677; transl. source unknown, vs 1;
vs 4, Joseph A. Seiss. Music *Schleische Volkslieder*, 1842 Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2010

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried.*

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.*

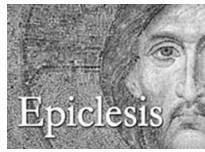
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

— Nicene Creed



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Thus says the high and exalted One who inhabits eternity,
whose name is Holy:

"I dwell in the high and holy place,
and with the contrite and lowly of spirit,
in order to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite."

– Isaiah 57:15

O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house,
and the place where Your glory dwells.

Examine me, O LORD, and try me; test my mind and my heart.

For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes.

– Psalm 26:2, 8

Most merciful God, **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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

Eternal Light, **shine into our hearts.**

Eternal Goodness, **deliver us from evil.**

Eternal Power, **be our strength and support.**

Eternal Compassion, **have mercy upon us.**

[Silence]

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, **forgive us and renew us.**

Grant that we may ever seek Your face with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and be brought by Your infinite mercy to Your holy presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

–from a prayer of Alcuin of Tours, 8th C., alt.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

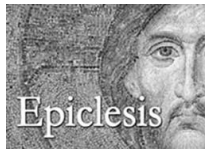
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
All my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
God, the well-spring of life.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

How blessed are those You choose
and bring near to live in Your courts!

*When we were overwhelmed by sins,
You forgive our transgressions.*

How blessed are those You choose
and bring near to live in Your courts!

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,
the holiness of Your temple!

**By awesome deeds You answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
You are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas!**

— from Psalm 65:4-5

Thanks be to God!

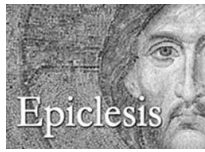
TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of God's faithfulness

My Dwelling Place (Psalm 91)

My dwelling place is God Most High,
My Refuge and my Fortress.
When plague and pestilence draw nigh
I'm hidden in His presence.
When terrors fall and arrows fly
His shield will be my safety;
When stones across my pathway lie
On angels' wings I'm carried.

My dwelling place is God Most High,
A present help in danger;
I rest secure in Love's pure light
Beneath my Master's favor.
He freed me from the fowler's snare,
Where sin and shame had bound me;
Deceived, I'd made my refuge there,
Till, fearless, He came for me.



Chorus

Wonderful, powerful, my Hope and my Defender;
Mighty God, Emmanuel; my dwelling place forever.

My dwelling place is God Most High,
My heart He'll keep forever.
For I am His and He is mine;
I'll never seek another.
I know the Name on Whom I call;
He promises to answer.
With life He satisfies my soul,
And crowns me with His pleasure.

Chorus

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Chris Eaton, Keith Getty, Kelly Meredith Minter, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

THE WORD

Psalm 91

THE TABLE

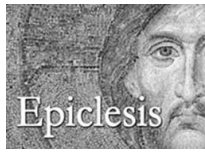
Remembering the Body of Christ

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 (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.**

Flow Like a River

Flow like a river, fall like the rain;
Streams of compassion flow from His throne.
Wide as the ocean, deep as the sea;
Life-giving fountain, is God's love for me.

Feast at the table of mercy, drink from the cup of His grace.
Dwell in His infinite goodness, live in His healing embrace.

CCLI Song # 2989523 ©2000 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Steve Merkel.

Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God Almighty. (repeat)
Who was and is, and is to come. (repeat)

Lift up His name with the sound of singing,
Lift up His name in all the earth.
Lift up your voice and give Him glory,
For He is worthy to be praised.

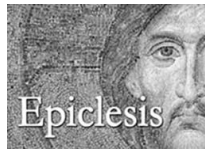
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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Our Great God (chorus)

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



Benediction:

Now, beloved, we are sent forth into the world to love and serve the Lord. As we go, may He grant that we would truly be His temple.

Amen.

Just as the Word of God, Christ incarnate, came and tabernacled among us that we might behold His glory, grace, and truth, so may we ever be the manifestation of His presence in the world, the theater of His glory and power.

Amen!

Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—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 –

“How can someone doubt God's presence and help who has experienced various dangers and has been saved from them by His simple nod, who has passed through the sea that the Savior calmed and that supplied a solid road for the people? I believe that finding miracles like these performed and perfected at God's command is the foundation of faith and the basis for confidence. Therefore, even in the midst of trials there is no reason to turn from our faith. But we have an unshaken hope in God. When this habit of confidence is firmly rooted in the soul, God Himself will dwell in our deepest thoughts. His power can't be overcome. Therefore the soul in which He dwells won't be overcome by dangers surrounding it. We see this truth demonstrated in God's own victory. While He intended to bless humanity, He was severely insulted by malicious, ungodly people. However, He suffered through His passion unharmed and gained a mighty victory over sin and an everlasting crown of triumph. Therefore He accomplished His providential purpose, loved the righteous, and destroyed the cruelty of the unrighteous.”

– Eusebius

Image credit, page 1: Yoram Raanan, The Garden of Eden, 2014.

Lectionary for next week: Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26; Psalm 137;
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-9;
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

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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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