

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

October 4, 2020 (Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech; night to night reveals knowledge.

They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

**Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
restoring the soul;

*The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

*The commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever.

*The judgments of the LORD are true;
they are righteous altogether.*

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*By them Your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

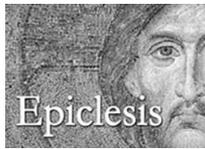
Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations;

**I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes forever,
even to the end.**

— from Psalm 19:1-11 and 119:89, 112





Creation Sings the Father's Song

Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day,
Till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow;
His breath upon this spinning globe;
He charts the eagle's flight,
Commands the newborn baby's cry.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship,
Tell the wonders of creation's King.

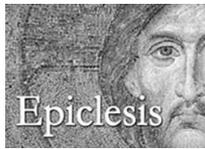
Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace,
Unveiled the Father's plan
Of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally.

Creation longs for His return,
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage
Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky,
All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme:
The glory of our God and King!

CCLI Song #5333798 ©2008 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend

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 (verse 5)

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!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225. Transl. William H. Draper, 1919.
Hymn tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Whatever things were gain to me
I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.
*More than that, I consider all things as loss
in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord,*
That I may gain Christ and be found in Him,
Not having any righteousness of my own,
but the righteousness that comes from God through faith in Christ;
*And that I may know Him
and the power of His resurrection,*
**Being conformed to His death
so that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**
Forgetting what lies behind
and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
*I press on toward the goal of the prize
of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*
**For our citizenship is in heaven,
from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ;
who will transform the body of our humble state
into conformity with the body of His glory,
by the exertion of the power that He has
even to subject all things to Himself.**

– from Philippians 3:7-14, 20-21



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

But who can discern their own errors?

Cleanse me from hidden faults.

Keep Your servants from willful sins;

Let them not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,

and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to You, O LORD, our Rock and our Redeemer.

– from Psalm 19:12-14

[Silent confessions]

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of
our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. (Repeat)

Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus Christ.

Kyrie eleison, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Have mercy on me, a sinner.

CCLI Song # 4091787 ©2003 Mail Train Music. Phil Madeira

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said,

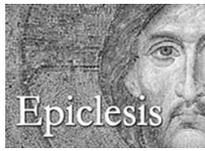
“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Every branch in Me
that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears
fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.

*“Abide in Me, as I abide in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of
itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in
Me.*

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you abide in Me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit; for apart from Me, you can do nothing.

*“My Father is glorified by this: that you bear much fruit, and so prove
to be My disciples.”*

– from John 15:1-8



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise of God's faithfulness

Lord of Lords

Beholding Your beauty is all that I long for.
To worship You, Jesus, is my sole desire.
For this very heart You have shaped for Your pleasure,
Purposed to lift Your name higher.

Here in surrender, in pure adoration,
I enter Your courts with an offering of praise.
I am Your servant, come to bring You glory,
As is fit for the works of Your hands.

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.
All of creation resounds with the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords.

Spirit now living and dwelling within me,
Keep my eyes fixed ever on Jesus' face.
Let not the things of this world ever sway me,
I'll run 'til I finish the race.

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.
All of creation resounds with the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords.

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.
All of eternity echoes the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords.

Holy Lord, You are holy. Jesus Christ is the Lord.

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.
Call all the sinners to join in the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords. Lord of lords . . .



THE WORD

Matthew 21:33-46

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.



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

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.

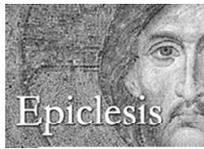
Give us this day our daily bread,

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.

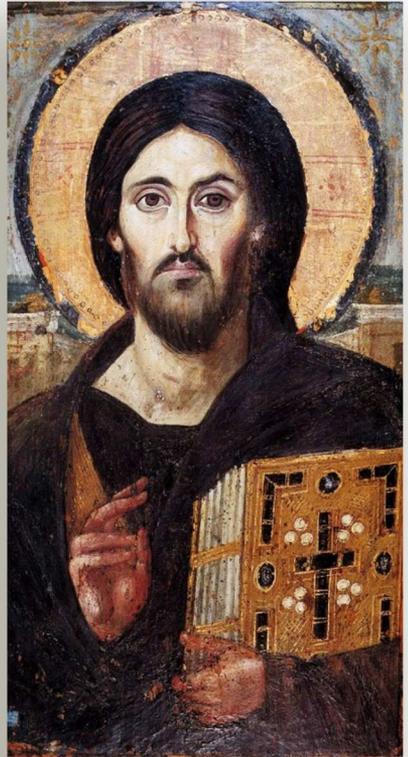


Jesus, Lover of My Soul

It's all about You, Jesus.
And all this is for You,
For Your glory and Your fame.
It's not about me,
As if You should do things my way;
You alone are God
And I surrender to Your ways.

Jesus, lover of my soul;
All consuming fire
Is in Your gaze.
Jesus, I want You to know
I will follow You
All my days.
For no one else in history
Is like You,
And history itself
Belongs to You;
Alpha and Omega,
You have loved me,
And I will share eternity with You.

CCLI Song #1545484 ©1995 Thankyou Music;
Paul Oakley



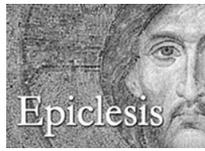
I Surrender All

I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live.

Words: Judson W. Van de Venter 1896. Music: Winfield S. Weeden

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Benediction

Now, beloved, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.
And as we go, let this be the prayer of faith that encourages
and sustains us:

**May we 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 we may lead lives worthy of the Lord,
fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work,
and growing in the knowledge of God.**

Amen! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

– based on Colossians 1:9-11

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“I am only intent on ‘one thing’ says Paul, ‘in stretching forward to the things which are before.’ But included in this ‘one thing’ he says, is ‘forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.’ Forgetting the past things made him reach forward to the things ahead. So then, any who think they have accomplished it all and need no further perfecting can stop running. They have reached their goal. But those who think they are still far from the goal will never stop running. You should think like the latter, even if you perform ten thousand good deeds. For if Paul thought thus, after ten thousand deaths and so many dangers, how much more should we? . . . We should act like him, forget our successes, and throw them behind us. For runners don’t think about how many laps they have finished, but how many are left. We, too, should think not about how we are advanced in holiness, but about how much farther we have to go. For how do we profit from what we have when we don’t add what we lack? In addition, Paul didn’t say, ‘I don’t think about,’ but ‘I don’t even remember.’ For we become eager when we diligently work toward what is left, when we forget everything else.”

– Chrysostom

Image credit. p. 7: Oldest known icon of Christ Pantocrator (“Ruler of the World”), St. Catherine’s Monastery, Sinai, c. 6th C.

Lectionary for next week: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Isaiah 25:1-9;
Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

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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