

An Ancient-Future Faith Community
Liturgy
January 10, 2021 (Baptism of the Lord)

GATHERING

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

**Glory 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.

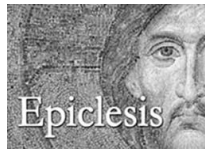
The LORD will give strength to His people.

The LORD will 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!

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

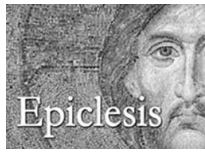
All Creatures of Our God and King

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!

Amen

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen. (Sing it over ...)

See the little baby (amen), Lyin' in a manger (amen),
On Christmas morning – Amen, amen, amen.



See Him in the temple (amen), Talkin' to the elders (amen),
Who marvel at His wisdom – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him at the Jordan (amen), Where John was baptizin' (amen),
And the Spirit came upon Him – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him at the sea side (amen), Preachin' and healin' (amen)
The blind and the feeble – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him in the garden (amen), Prayin' to His Father (amen),
In deepest sorrow – Amen, amen, amen.

Then they crucified Him (amen), Jesus, our Savior (amen),
And He rose on Easter! Amen, amen, amen.

Hallelujah! (amen), He died to save us (amen),
And He lives forever - Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

Public domain. Words and music: traditional African-American spiritual.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

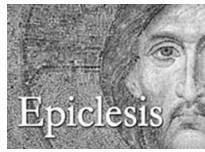
**This is the mystery that has been revealed to us,
the mystery of Christ, which in ages past was not made known
to the children of men but now has been revealed by the Spirit
to His holy apostles and prophets:**

That is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs and fellow members
of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus
through the gospel, according to the gift of God's grace.

**And this is the plan of the mystery,
hidden for ages in God who created all things,
but now brought to light for all to see: that the manifold wisdom
of God should be made known through the church
to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,
according to the eternal purpose which He carried out
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

In Him we have boldness and access with confidence to God
through our faith in Him.

– from 2 Corinthians 4:6 and Ephesians 3:1-12



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]

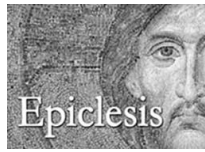
We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone,
and we have wandered from Your pathway.

[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.

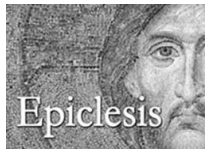
– Titus 3:4-5

Thanks be to God!



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of thanksgiving and praise.



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.

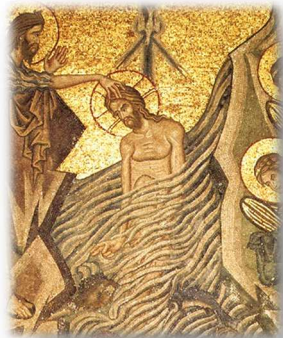
CCLI Song #7105732 ©SHOUT! Music Publishing | sixsteps Music | worshiptogether.com
songs. Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Kristian Stanfill, Brett Younker.

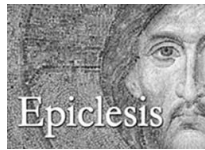
THE WORD

Mark 1:4-11

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.**

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's a light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

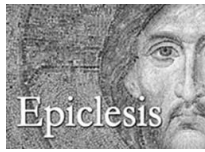
Chorus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion –
For more than conquerors we are!

His Word shall not fail you – He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

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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.)

Image credits – p. 1: Daniel Bonnell, “The Baptism of Christ (II),” *contemp.*; p. 5: Mark Jennings, “Baptism,” *contemp.*; p. 6: Mosaic in the Cathedral of San Marco, Venice, 13th C.

Lectionary for next week: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

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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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