

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

January 24, 2021 (Third Sunday of Epiphany)

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the eternal God.

He is the source of love and life, who creates and sustains us.

**Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

**How blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD!**

On God rests my salvation and my glory;

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress.

**Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;  
though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains  
tremble at its tumult. For the LORD of hosts is with us,  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come and behold the works of the LORD,  
what awesome things He has done on the earth.

**In His hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are His also.**

**The sea is His, for He made it,  
and His hands formed the dry land.**

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,  
then the waters would have engulfed us,  
the raging waters would have swept over our soul.

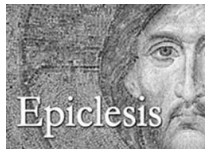
**This is what the LORD, our God, says:**

**“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted  
among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**

Amen! Blessed be the LORD!

— Scripture weaving from Psalms 46, 62, 95 and 124





*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Praise to the Lord,  
The Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
For He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
Now to His temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord,  
Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings,  
Yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen  
How all thy longings have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?



Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

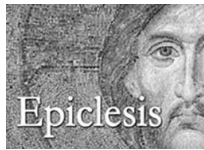
Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; transl. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863.  
Hymn tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665. Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2013 .

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (verse 4)*

Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
Come now with praises before Him.  
Let the "Amen"  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly, for aye we adore Him.



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Church, on what does your faith rest?

**Our faith rests not on human wisdom, but on the power of God.**

**This is the power of God: Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.**

**We declare the wisdom of God, a mystery  
that was hidden and that God ordained for our glory  
from before time began.**

**None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had,  
they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

**But as it is written:**

**“No eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love Him.”**

**But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.**

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable are His judgments  
and unfathomable His ways!

**For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things;  
To Him be glory forever.**

— from 1 Corinthians 2:1-10 and Romans 11:33, 36

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

For God alone my soul waits in silence;  
from Him comes my salvation.

*He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;  
I shall not be greatly shaken.*

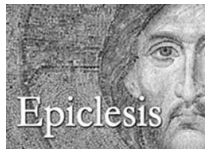
My soul, wait in silence for God alone,  
for my hope is from Him.

*On God rests my salvation and my glory;  
He is the rock of my strength, and my refuge.*

Trust in Him at all times, O His people.

Pour out your heart before Him, for He is our refuge.

— from Psalm 62:1-8



Almighty and merciful God,

**We confess to You and to one another that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

[Silent confessions]

**In Your mercy, forgive us and accomplish in us the work of Your salvation. So draw our hearts to You, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly Yours, utterly dedicated unto You. So may we show forth Your glory in the world; through Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*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.

*Songs and Prayers from Taizé;*

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#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You, O LORD, are good and forgiving,  
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You.

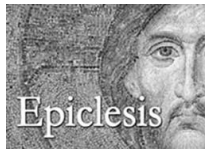
**I give thanks to You, O LORD my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever. For great is Your steadfast love toward me; You have delivered my soul from the depths of the realm of the dead.**

– Psalm 86:12-13

Now hear this really good news:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. And we know that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

– Romans 8:1, 38-39



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

### *Is He Worthy?*

Do you feel the world is broken? **We do.**  
Do you feel the shadows deepen? **We do.**  
But do you know that all the dark  
Won't stop the light from getting through? **We do.**  
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **We do.**

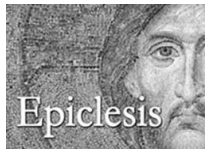
Is all creation groaning? **It is.**  
Is a new creation coming? **It is.**  
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **It is.**  
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **It is.**

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?  
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?  
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,  
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.  
Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?  
Is He worthy of this? **He is.**

Does the Father truly love us? **He does.**  
Does the Spirit move among us? **He does.**  
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves? **He does.**  
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **He does.**

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?  
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?  
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,  
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.  
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue,  
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son.

Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?  
Is He worthy, is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? **He is.**  
Is He worthy, is He worthy? **He is.**



## THE WORD

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Mark 1:14-20

Psalms 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

## 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,**

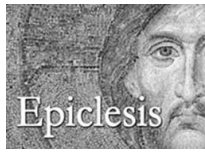
**But deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom,**

**And the power, and the glory,**

**Forever. Amen**





*Psalm 62*

My soul finds rest in God alone,  
My rock and my salvation;  
A fortress strong against my foes,  
And I will not be shaken.  
Though lips may bless, and hearts may curse,  
And lies, like arrows, pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;  
I'll look to Him who hears me.

*Chorus*

O praise Him, hallelujah, my Delight and my Reward.  
Everlasting, never failing; my Redeemer, my God.

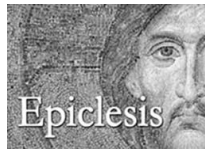
Find rest, my soul, in God alone  
Amid the world's temptations.  
When evil seeks to take a hold,  
I'll cling to my salvation.  
Though riches come, and riches go,  
Don't set your heart upon them.  
The fields of hope in which I sow  
Are harvested in heaven.

*Chorus*

I'll set my gaze on God alone,  
And trust in Him completely;  
With ev'ry day pour out my soul,  
And He will prove His mercy.  
Though life is but a fleeting breath,  
A sigh too brief to measure,  
My King has crushed the curse of death,  
And I am His forever.

*Chorus*

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## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

#### *Psalm 62 (reprise chorus)*

O praise Him, hallelujah! My Delight and my Reward.  
Everlasting, never failing; my Redeemer, my God.

#### Benediction:

Now, beloved, go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord – walking out your baptisms in trust, surrender, and faithfulness – and remembering always that He who calls, saves, and keeps you is your steadfast Rock, mighty Fortress, and eternal Salvation.

**Amen!**

Now to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*A thought about worship...* “We are the disciples whom Jesus has called . . . to turn away from self-love and self-service, to abandon a life lived for self-gratification or self-glory, and to serve God as an epiphany of the self-giving service of Jesus. True spirituality longs for, seeks for, and wills this abandonment of self so that Christ may become present through our work, our lives, and our relationships, manifesting his power.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 88.)

*Image credits.* p. 2: El Greco, *Pantocrator Christ*, c. 1600 (Pantocrator means “Ruler of All”); p. 6: Mark Jennings, “Body and Blood,” contemp.

**Lectionary for next week:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111,  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

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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