

# An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy April 11, 2021 (Second Sunday of Easter)

#### **GATHERING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Come, let us sing for joy, and worship the risen Lord!

That Eastertide With Joy Was Bright

That Eastertide with joy was bright, The sun shone out with fairer light, When, to their longing eyes restored, The glad apostles saw their Lord.

He bade them see His hands, His side, Where yet the glorious wounds abide; The tokens true which made it plain Their Lord indeed was risen again.

Jesus, the King of gentleness, do Thou Thyself our hearts possess That we may give Thee all our days the tribute of our grateful praise.

All praise be Thine, O risen Lord, from death to endless life restored; All praise to God the Father be, and Holy Ghost eternally.

Words: anonymous, 5<sup>th</sup> C. (*Aurora lucis rutilat*); trans.by John M. Neale in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861. Hymn tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, 15<sup>th</sup> C. Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013.





Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

By His covenant love, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you:

God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.

God has claimed us as His own:

He has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, and made us with Him to be light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

- from 1 Peter 1:3, 2:9; Matt. 5:14; 1 John 1:5

#### 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.

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.

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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

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

Anonymous German hymn *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677; Transl. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873. Hymn tune: CRUSADER'S HYMN, Silesian folk tune, *Schleische Volksleider*, 1842.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life.

This Life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.

—1 John 1:1-2

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

Call to Confession

Reading: 1 John 1:3 - 2:2

Lord, You have called us to become Your own. We were bought with a price, the price of Your life and blood. We love You, and we want to live for You.

## [Silence]

Lord, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go. Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our soul. Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus!

# [Silence]

Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine. Let us preach You without preaching, not by words only but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You. Amen.

-from a prayer by John Henry Newman

## The Lord Is My Light

The Lord is my light, My light and salvation; In God I trust, In God I trust.

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#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These are sure promises of God:

If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve Me and stand before Me.

- Jeremiah 15:19

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. —1 John 1:9

Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

- Ephesians 5:8

## Thanks be to God!

## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

## Breathing the Breath

We have nothing to give that didn't first come from Your hands. We have nothing to offer You which You did not provide. Every good perfect gift comes from Your kind and gracious heart; And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

#### Chorus

Lord, we're breathing the breath That You gave us to breathe To worship You, to worship You. And we're singing these songs With the very same breath To worship You, to worship You.

Who has given to You that it should be paid back to him? Who has given to You as if You needed anything? From You and to You and through You come all things, O Lord; And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

## Bridge:

We are breathing the breath That You gave us to breathe (repeat)

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## THE WORD

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1 – 2:2

John 20:19-31

# 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 (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.

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## Beneath the Cross

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I find a place to stand; And wonder at such mercy, That calls me as I am. For hands that should discard me, Hold wounds which tell me, "Come." Beneath the cross of Jesus, My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus,
His fam'ly is my own.
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,
Now one, through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor
The ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, The path before the crown, We follow in His footsteps, Where promised hope is found. How great the joy before us To be His perfect bride. Beneath the cross of Jesus, We will gladly live our lives.





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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!

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## Benediction

Beloved, the glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of Jesus Christ overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in Him.

## Amen. Thanks be to God!

Now, as He stood in the midst of His disciples, the conqueror of sin and death, and spoke peace to them and breathed the Holy Spirit into their hearts, so may our encounter with the living Christ compel us to go forth into the world, giving witness to what we have seen and believed, to love and serve the Lord.

## Amen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## A thought about worship from the ancient Fathers -

"Our confession must not contain lazy or deliberately vague words. There must not be any space between our heart and lips, lest what should be the confession of true reverence become a mask for evil. The Word must be near us and within us. There must not be any delay between the heart and the lips. We must have a faith of conviction as well as of words. . . . The Apostle Paul explains the prophet's words: 'That is the word of faith, which we preach; because if thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord, and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised Him up from the dead, thou shalt be saved.' True devotion consists in rejecting doubt, and in righteousness from believing, and salvation from confessing. . . . Faith lies in simplicity, righteousness in faith, and true godliness in confession. For God doesn't call us to the blessed life through tiring investigations. He doesn't tempt us with rhetoric. The way to eternity is plain and easy: believe that God raised Jesus from the dead and confess that He is the Lord. . . . Jesus Christ died so that we could live in Him."

*Image credits.* p. 1: "Christ Shows Himself to Thomas," Resurrection Chapel, Washington National Cathedral. Creative Commons.; p. 6 Daniel Bonnell, "Eucharist #1," Contemp..

Lectionary for next week: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

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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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