

An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
*Liturgy*  
May 9, 2021 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The grave is empty; He has conquered death!  
**Alleluia! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things;  
His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

**The LORD has made known His salvation;**

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness  
to the house of Israel;

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;

Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises  
before the LORD, the King.

**Let the sea roar, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell  
in it; let the rivers clap their hands and the mountains sing  
together before the LORD!**

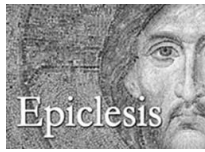
For He is coming to judge the earth; He will judge the world with  
righteousness and the peoples with equity.

**I will sing to the LORD, for He has done excellent things;**

**His lovingkindness and His faithfulness are everlasting!**

— Psalm 98





*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?

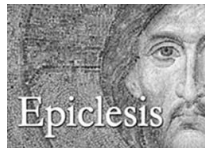
Praise to the Lord,  
Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
Surely His goodness and mercy  
Here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

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



*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;  
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our Guide and Friend, to us He'll condescend;  
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!  
Alleluia! Amen!

Words: Christian H. Bateman (*Sacred Melodies for Children*, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843).  
Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody. Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ  
has been born of God;  
*And everyone who loves the Father  
loves the child born of Him.*

**By this we know that we love the children of God:  
When we love God and obey His commandments.**

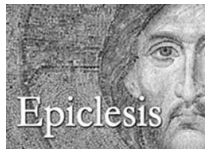
For this is the love of God,  
that we keep His commandments.  
*And His commandments are not burdensome,  
for whatever is born of God overcomes the world.*

**And this is the victory that overcomes the world:  
Our faith.**

Who are they who overcome the world,  
but those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God?

**This is the One who came by water and blood:  
Jesus Christ;  
not with water only,  
but with the water and the blood.  
It is the Spirit who testifies,  
because the Spirit is truth.**

— 1 John 5:1-6



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Jesus said to His disciples:

As the Father has loved Me, so I have loved you;  
abide in My love.

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and abide in His love.

I have said these things to you so that My joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be complete.

This is My commandment, that you love one another  
as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this,  
than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

— John 15:12-13

[Silence]

Most holy and loving God,

**We confess to You and to one another, that we have sinned  
by our own fault in thought, word, and deed;  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

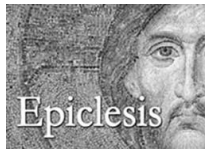
**We have not always loved You with our whole heart, and mind,  
and strength. We have not loved others as You have loved us.**

**We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.**

[Silence]

Have mercy on us, Lord.

**Accept our repentance, and accomplish in us  
the work of Your salvation,  
that we may 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.**



### *Kyrie Eleison*

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

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

The words of Jesus, great blessings of pardon:  
You are My friends if you do what I command you.  
I do not call you servants any longer,  
because the servant does not know what the master is doing;  
but I have called you friends,  
because I have made known to you everything  
that I have heard from my Father.  
You did not choose me, but I chose you.  
And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last,  
so that the Father will give you whatever you ask Him  
in My name.  
I have said these things to you so that My joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be complete.

– John 15:14-16

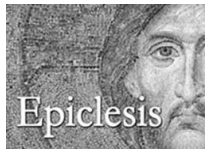
**Thanks be to God!**

### TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

#### *Wonderful Merciful Savior*

Wonderful, merciful Savior;  
Precious Redeemer and Friend:  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.



### *Chorus*

You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace;  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way.  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

Almighty, infinite Father,  
Faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne.  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

CCLI Song #106879 ©1989 Curb Dayspring Music | Curb Word Music.  
Dawn Rogers, Eric Wyse.

## THE WORD

John 15:9-17

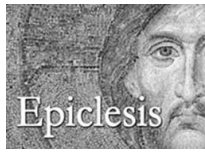
## THE TABLE

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.**

*Be Unto Your Name*

We are a moment, You are forever,  
Lord of the ages, God before time.  
We are a vapor, You are eternal,  
Love everlasting, reigning on high.

*Chorus*

Holy, holy, Lord God, Almighty.  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.  
Highest praises, honor and glory  
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,  
Jesus Redeemer, mighty to save.  
You are the love song we'll sing forever,  
Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

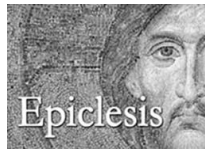
CCLI Song #2177476; ©1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Gary Sadler and Lynn DeShazo

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

*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.



### Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, let us remember with thankful hearts that He has called us into the company of those who trust in Christ and seek to obey His will. He has called us His friends, and has given us the privilege and charge to love and serve others as He has loved us.

### **Amen.**

As we walk out our baptisms in the world, may He guide us closer to Him and to one another, in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace, confirming us in His ways, for His glory alone, forever.

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

### *A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“When the martyrs obeyed the great commandments, they acted by a great will—that is, with great love. The Lord speaks of this great love: ‘Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.’ . . . The Apostle Peter didn't possess this love when he fearfully denied the Lord three times. ‘There is no fear in love,’ says John the Evangelist in his first epistle, ‘but perfect love casteth out fear.’ Even though Peter's love was small and imperfect, it was still present when he said to the Lord, ‘I will lay down my life for Thy sake.’ Peter believed he could carry out what he felt he was willing to do by himself. . . . However, God works in us so that we can have the will to obey. Once we have this will, God works with us to perfect us. The apostle Paul says, ‘I am confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.’ ”  
— Origen

*Image credit.* p. 1. Mark Lawrence, *Rejoicing in Hope*, 2021.

### ***Lectionary for the Seventh Sunday of Easter:***

Acts 1:15-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-21; John 17:6-9

### ***Lectionary of the Ascension of the Lord:***

Acts 1:1-11; Psalms 47 and 93; Ephesians 1:15-23;  
Luke 24:44-53

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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