

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 19, 2021 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We have gathered to worship and praise our gracious God,
who is Lord of all.

*Give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart;
tell of all His wonderful works.*

**There is none like You, O LORD,
nor are there any works like Yours.**

Bow down toward His holy temple in worship,
and give thanks to His name for His unfailing love and faithfulness.

*For He is great and does wondrous things;
He alone is God.*

O LORD, how manifold are Your works!

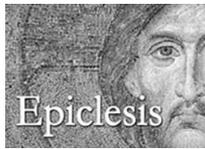
In wisdom You have made them all.

The LORD will fulfill His purpose for us;
His steadfast love endures forever.

**We will give thanks to You, O LORD, with our whole heart,
and sing of Your ways; for great is the glory of the LORD!**

– from Psalms 86, 104, 138





We Bow Down

You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life,
Lord of the land and the sea.
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time,
And Lord of all lords You will be.

We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
Lord of all lords You will be.

You are King of creation and King of my life,
King of the land and the sea.
You were King of the heavens before there was time,
And King of all kings You will be.

We bow down and we crown You the King (3 times)
King of all kings You will be.

CCLI Song #20003 ©1984 New Spring, Twila Paris.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

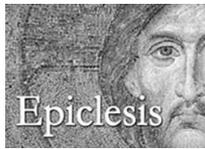
Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God, and man the Son;
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly,
Wondrously, Jesus, is found in Thee;
None can be nearer, fairer or dearer,
Than Thou, my Savior, art to me.

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

Anon. German hymn *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677; Transl. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873.
Hymn tune: CRUSADER'S HYMN, Silesian folk tune, 1842. Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2010



PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Christ died for all,

so that those who live might no longer live for themselves,
but for Him who for their sake died and was raised again.

If then any are in Christ, they are new creations.

The old has passed away; the new has come!

**Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

For God, who commanded light to 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 Jesus.

*For once you were darkness,
but now you are light in the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Walk, then, as children of light –
for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness
and truth – trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

**Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*For if we live, we live to the Lord;
and if we die, we die to the Lord.*

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

We were buried with Christ in baptism,
in which we also were raised with Him through faith
in the powerful working of God,
who raised Him from the dead.

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

“Death is swallowed up in victory!

O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

**Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

Amen.

– from Romans 14:8; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57;
2 Corinthians 4:6; 5:15-17;
Ephesians 5:8-10; Colossians 2:12



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Pastoral call to confession

Beloved, these are precious words of grace and welcome:

God said, "Let light shine out of darkness."

And He has made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

**Shine now in our hearts, merciful Father;
reveal any places of darkness, and cleanse us from sin.**

– based on 2 Corinthians 4:4-6 (NIV)

[Silence]

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.**

Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs; their soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
To dwell in lowliness with men, their Pattern and their King.

Lord, we Thy presence seek; may this our blessing be:
Give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple meet for Thee.

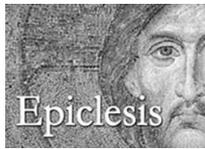
Words: John Keble (1819); *Mitre Hymn Book* (1836). Music: Ellen Koehler ©2013.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Thus says the LORD God,

"In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength."

How blessed are all those who wait and hope in Him.



Behold, God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid.

**For the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and He has become my salvation.**

Therefore with joy we draw water from the wells of salvation.

— from Isaiah 30:15,18; 12:2-4

Thanks be to the LORD! His name is exalted!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

We Humbly Bow

We humbly bow before You now; we lift our lives up to You.
On our knees we bring our humble offering
Of worship and honor and praise.

Chorus

Boldly we come to Your throne, O Father,
But only by grace can we come.
We've been bought by the precious blood of the Lamb.
We lay down our lives before You, Jesus,
We willingly give You all,
As humbly at Your feet we fall.
For it's the highest place of all, O Lord.

On this holy ground our hearts bow down,
Your awesome splendor overwhelms.
But there is no fear, for Jesus You are here;
Your shed blood has made us a way.

CCLI Song #1270955 ©1994 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Tom Brooks

THE WORD

Fear,
and the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit





Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me;
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt;
Fightings and fears within, without – O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind.
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in Thee to find – O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe – O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott, 1835. Tune: WOODWORTH; William B. Bradbury, 1849.

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,

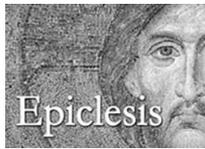
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.





My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd will supply my need: Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death His presence is my stay;
One word of His supporting breath drives all my fears away.
His hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, His oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Hymn Tune: RESIGNATION (SOUTHERN HARMONY), 1835
Setting: Ellen Koehler, Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.

Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain; Holy, holy is He.
Sing a new song to Him who sits on Heaven's mercy seat.

Chorus

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything, and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power
Be to You, the only wise King.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your name;
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water,
Such a marv'lous mystery.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Benediction:

The keeping of God and the Lord on you;
the keeping of Christ always on you;
the keeping of the life-giving Spirit, everlasting, be yours.

Amen!

And may Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit –
bless you now and forever, as you go forth into the world
to love and serve the Lord, manifesting His goodness,
faithfully and without fear, in the world around you.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Strengthen yourself beforehand with the seal. Secure yourself for the future with it, the best and strongest aids. Sign both your body and soul with it, as ancient Israel guarded itself with the blood of the firstborn lamb that night. Then what can happen to you? And what do you achieve? Listen to the Proverbs: ‘If thou sittest, he says, thou shalt be without fear; and if thou sleepest, thy sleep shall be sweet.’ Listen to David giving good news: ‘Thou shalt not be afraid for the tenor by night, for mischance or noonday demon.’ While you live, this will contribute greatly to your sense of safety. For a branded sheep isn't snared easily, but the unmarked ones are easy prey for thieves. But at your death the seal will be a shroud that is more precious than gold. . . . No, if everything abandons you or is violently taken away from you (money, possessions, thrones, nobility, and every earthly thing), you can still lay down your life in safety. For you haven't lost any of the helps God gave you for your salvation.”

– Gregory of Nazianzus

Image credit. p. 1. Mark Lawrence, *Increase and More*, contemp.

Lectionary for next week: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124;
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14;
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

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Text the word **Epiclesis** to 22828 to sign up for our weekly eNewsletter

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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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