

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy

October 24, 2021 (Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We have gathered to praise and magnify our gracious God.

Let us exalt His name together!

I will bless the LORD at all times:

His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

I sought the LORD, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to Him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,

and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

O taste and see that the LORD is good;

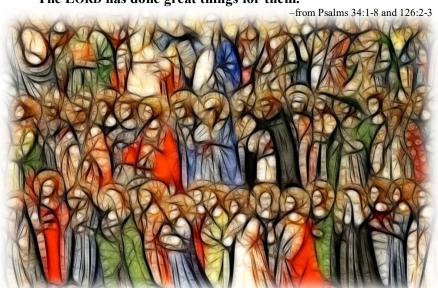
how blessed are those who take refuge in Him!

The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad!

Our mouths are filled with laughter, and our tongues with joyful shouting.

All who see us declare,

"The LORD has done great things for them."





Behold the Lord

Great and marvelous are Your works, Oh Lord Almighty. True and righteous are all Your ways, King of the ages. Who will not fear You, oh Lord, And glorify Your Name?

Chorus

Behold the Lord; God is my salvation; In Him I trust, and will not be afraid. And I will give thanks, And sing among the nations forever; Behold the Lord, Behold the Lord, Behold the Lord.

So rejoice and be glad in this, Our God is with us; Messiah, Emmanuel, Lion of Judah; Lift up your voice and declare The glory of our King.

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!



Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might; Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight; Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1864. Hymn tune: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughn Williams

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in the words of this hymn of the ancient church:

You are God; we praise You.

You are the Lord; we acclaim You.

You are the Eternal Father; all creation worships You.

To You all angels, all the powers of heaven, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praises you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praises you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praises you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims You;

Father of majesty unbounded,

Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When You became man to set us free

You did not shun the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood, and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting.

from Te Deum laudamus ("Thee, O God, we praise"), 4th century.
 Attributed to church fathers Ambrose and Augustine.



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The words of the psalmist:

Come, children, and listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Who among you desires life and loves many days,

that you may see good?

Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit;

Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

- Psalm 34:11-14

[Silence]

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; And deliver us and forgive our sins for Your name's sake.

- Psalm 70:9

[Silent confessions]

We Confess

Almighty God, we confess our sin;

What we have done, what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with a whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy.

Most gracious God, we have lost our way.

Like wand'ring sheep, we have gone astray.

We're truly sorry, and we turn back

Now, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is God's assurance of His love and deliverance:

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.



The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. He is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who have a contrite spirit.

The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.

- from Psalms 34:15, 17, 18, 22

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Glory Be To God

To You we bring our hymn of praise: Glory be to God. Hearts and hands together raised: Glory be to God. Who spoke before the dawn of time: Glory be to God. Veil of darkness torn by light: Glory be to God.

And with unceasing voice all heaven sings: "Glory be to God!" Th'anthem of the Lord's redeemed: "Glory be to God!"

You purchased captives for Your saints: Glory be to God. And opened wide the kingdom gates: Glory be to God. You overcame the sting of death: Glory be to God. And clothed us in Christ's righteousness: Glory be to God.

And all Your children cry with loud acclaim: "Glory be to God!" Sing, O Church, Your sweet refrain: "Glory be to God!"

Glory, glory, glory, glory forever and ever. (repeat)

Father, Spirit, risen Son: Glory be to God.
Who was, and is, and is to come: Glory be to God.
And with unceasing voice all heaven sings: "Glory be to God!"
Th'anthem of the Lord's redeemed: "Glory be to God!"

And all Your children cry with loud acclaim: "Glory be to God!" Sing, O Church, Your sweet refrain: "Glory be to God!"

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THE WORD

Psalm 34 Hebrews 12

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.

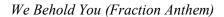
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



With all of the saints and angels, we gather before You. Our hearts filled with thankfulness, we lift up Your holy Name. With all who have gone before us, we feast at Your table. We eat of Your body and drink of Your holy blood.





And we behold You, and we behold You: Lamb of God, slain for our sins. (Repeat)

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Holy

I will lift my voice, and I will sing, I will sing holy, holy. To my Lord and Savior, my God and King: I will sing holy, holy

Chorus:

I will praise the Lamb of God Who sits upon the throne. I will worship Him, And give the praise to Him alone. He who was and is and is to come: I will sing before His throne forever, forever.

All the angels sing, and they bow down, And they sing holy, holy. We, Your sons and daughters, we praise You now: And we cry holy, holy.

Chorus

Holy, holy; holy, holy . . .

Donnie McClurkin, ©2003 Seven Summits Music and Don Mac Music.

SENDING FORTH The Life of the Body

For All the Saints

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!



Benediction:

And now, beloved in the Lord, we go forth into the world to love and serve Him. May He continually enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that at all times we may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us who believe – that we may live for the praise of His glory, both now and in the ages to come.

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

- based on Ephesians 1:18-21

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

"Knowing that the Lord loves thankful people, His faithful servants never stop praising Him. They always give thanks to the Lord. Whether they are in times of ease or of suffering, they offer praise to God with thanksgiving. . . . Therefore, Job, who had more courage than anyone, thought of these things when he prospered. But when he suffered, he patiently endured the pain and gave thanks. David also sang praises during times of pain and sorrow. He said, 'I will bless the Lord at all times.' And Paul, in all of his epistles, never stopped thanking God. In times of ease he didn't falter, and he gloried in times of suffering. For Paul knew that 'tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope, and that hope maketh not ashamed.' As followers of such men, we must not let any season pass without thanksgiving... For the Apostle Paul, who gave thanks always, urges us to draw near to God in the same way. He said, 'Let your requests, with thanksgiving, be made known unto God.' Desiring that we would always continue doing this, he says, 'At all times give thanks; pray without ceasing.' For he knew that believers are strong while they give thanks. And, while rejoicing, they pass over the enemy's walls. These people are like the saints who said, 'Through Thee will we pierce through our enemies, and by my God I will leap over a wall." - Athanasius

Image credits. p. 1: abstract rendering of Fra Angelico, The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs, c. 1423; p. 6: Lou Ann Bagnall, contemp.

Lectionary for next week: Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 6:1-9;

Psalm119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

Lectionary, All Saints Day: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24;

Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44

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