

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 21, 2021 (Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Reign of Christ the King

GATHERING

The LORD reigns, He is robed in majesty!

The LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength;

He has established the world; it will not be moved.

The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne."

Your throne is established from of old;

You are from everlasting.

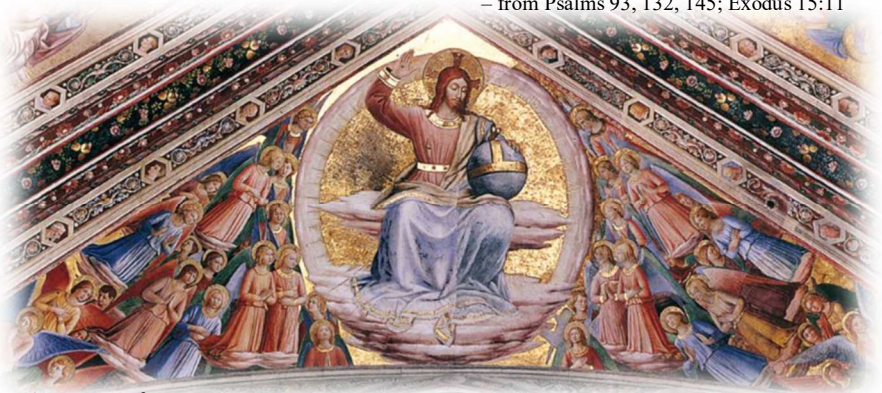
Who is like You, O God, Majestic in holiness,

Awesome in praises, working wonders?

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;

Your dominion endures throughout all ages.

— from Psalms 93, 132, 145; Exodus 15:11



Ancient of Days

Blessing and honor, glory and power,

Be unto the Ancient of Days.

From ev'ry nation, all of creation,

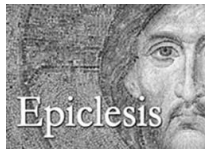
Bow before the Ancient of Days.

Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth shall declare Your glory;

Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne in worship;

You will be exalted, O God,

And Your kingdom shall not pass away, O Ancient of Days.



(spoken)

As I watched, thrones were set in place,
And the Ancient of Days took His seat;
His garment was white as snow,
and the hair of His head was like pure wool.
His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels were burning fire.
A stream of fire issued and came forth from before Him.
A thousand thousands served Him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.
The court was seated, and the books were opened. – Daniel 7:9-10

Ancient of Days (sung)

Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto the Ancient of Days.
From ev'ry nation, all of creation, bow before the Ancient of Days.

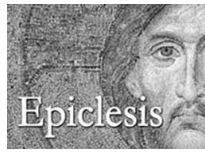
(spoken)

And behold, One like the Son of Man,
coming with the clouds of heaven!
He came to the Ancient of Days,
and was presented before Him.
Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass
away. And His kingdom shall never be destroyed. – Daniel 7:13-14

Ancient of Days (sung)

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth;
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.
For none can compare to Your matchless worth;
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.

Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth shall declare Your glory,
Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne in worship;
You will be exalted, O God,
And Your kingdom shall not pass away,
O Ancient of Days; O Ancient of Days; O Ancient of Days.



PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heav'nly music drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n! One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through God giv'n from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died.
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified!

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1851. Hymn tune: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: Jesus Christ has been ordained by God the Father
and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit –

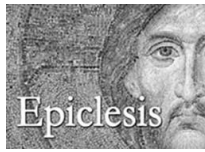
To be our chief Prophet and Teacher,
who perfectly reveals to us
the secret counsel and will of God for our redemption;
To be our only High Priest
who has set us free by the one sacrifice of his body,
and makes continual intercession with the Father for us;

And to be our eternal King,
who governs us by his word and Spirit,
and who guards us and keeps us in the salvation He has won for us.
He ascended to heaven, there to show that He is head of His church
and that the Father rules all things through Him.

**In all distress and persecution, we turn our eyes to the heavens,
and confidently await as judge the very One
who has already stood trial in our place before God
and so has removed the whole curse from us.**

**All his enemies and ours He will condemn to everlasting
punishment; but all His chosen ones He will take to Himself
into the joy and the glory of heaven.**

– from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 31, 50, 52



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Salvation belongs to our God
who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.

*Since we have a great High Priest, who has ascended into heaven,
Jesus the Son of God –*

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

– Revelation 7:10; Hebrews 4:14, 16

[Silence]

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him, and are often slow to acknowledge His rule. We too easily give allegiance to the powers and principalities of this world, and fail to be governed as your covenant people. In Your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim Jesus as ruler of all, that we may follow Him and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

Agnus Dei (Canticle 20)

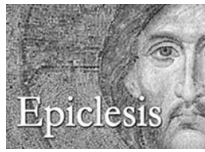
Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.

For You alone are Lord Most High,
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.
We worship You, we give You thanks,
We praise You for Your glory.

You alone are Lord Most High,
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.
We worship You, we give You thanks,
We praise You for Your glory, Almighty God and Father. Amen.

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Based on the ancient hymn text, Gloria in excelsis ("*Gloria to God in the highest*")



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To Him who loves us and freed us from our sins in His blood, and has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

Amen. Alleluia!

– Revelation 1:4-5

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise of God's faithfulness

The King In All His Beauty

O, lift your eyes to Heaven, see the Holy One eternal.
Behold the Lord of Majesty exalted in His temple.
As symphonies of angels' praise now strain to sound His glory,
Come worship, fall before His grace: the King in all His beauty.

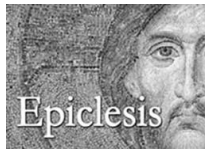
Chorus

How worthy, how worthy, how worthy: the King in all His beauty.

Now see the King who wears a crown,
One made of shame and splinters,
The sacrifice for ruined man,
The substitute for sinners.
As Earth is stained with royal blood
And quakes with love and fury,
He breathes His last and bows His head:
The King in all His beauty.

Now see the Savior lifted up: the Lamb who reigns in splendor,
The hope of every tribe and tongue, His kingdom is forever.
Bring praise and honor to His courts, bring wisdom, power, blessing;
For endless ages we'll adore the King in all His beauty.

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THE WORD

Psalm 93

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.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

God, the Uncreated One (King Forevermore)

God, the uncreated One,

The Author of salvation,

Wrote the laws of space and time,

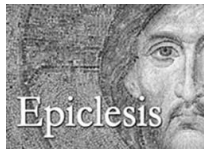
And fashioned worlds to His design.

The One whom angel hosts revere

Hung the stars like chandeliers,

Numbered every grain of sand,

Knows the heart of every man.



He is King forever; He is King forever;
He is King forevermore.

God, our fortress and our strength,
The Rock on which we can depend;
Matchless in His majesty,
His power and authority;
Unshaken by the schemes of man,
Never changing Great I Am.
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall,
He is faithful through it all.
Crown Him King forever; crown Him King forever;
Crown Him King forevermore.



Mighty God in mortal flesh, forsaken by a traitor's kiss;
The curse of sin and centuries did pierce the lowly Prince of Peace.
Lifted high, the sinless Man; crucified, the spotless Lamb;
Buried by the sons of man, rescued by the Father's hand.
To reign as King forever, reign as King forever,
Reign as King forevermore.

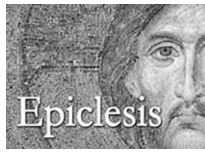
King eternal, God of grace, we crown You with the highest praise.
Heaven shouts and saints adore, You're holy, holy, holy Lord!
What joy in everlasting life, all is love and faith is sight.
Justice rolls and praises rise at the name of Jesus Christ.
King of kings forever, King of kings forever,
King of kings forevermore.

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LLC, Thankyou Music. Aaron Keyes, Pete James.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Crown Him with Many Crowns (reprise)

Crown Him the Lord of lords, who over all doth reign,
Who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,
Now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing
Their songs before Him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King.



Benediction:

Now to Him who reigns far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come, King of kings and Lord of lords, be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen!**

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him.

Beloved, this is our hope.

Let us hold it fast, as we go forth into the world

to love and serve Him!

– from Ephesians 1:21, Revelation 1:7

Amen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“What sort of garland did Christ Jesus. . . submit to on behalf of humanity? One made of thorns and thistles—a symbol of our sins, produced by the soil of the flesh. However, the power of the cross removed these thorns, blunting death's every sting in the Lord's enduring head. Yes, even beyond this symbol, contempt, shame, disgrace, and fierce cruelty disfigured and lacerated the Lord's temples. This was so that now you might be crowned with laurel, myrtle, olive, and any famous branch—with roses too—and both kinds of lily, violets of all sorts, and perhaps with gems and gold—garlands that will rival even the crown Christ obtained afterwards. For after the gall, He tasted the honeycomb. He was not greeted in heaven as the King of Glory until He had been condemned to the cross as King of the Jews. The Father first made Him a little lower than the angels for a time and then crowned Him with glory and honor. If you owe your own head to Him for these things, repay it if you can; He presented His for yours. Otherwise, don't be crowned with flowers at all; if you can't be crowned with thorns, you may never be crowned with flowers.”

– Tertullian

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Lectionary for next week: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10;

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

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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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