

Thursday mornings, 8 AM (Pacific) on Zoom

Epiclesis:

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Worshiping Sundays at 10:30 AM, at the Carmichael Chapel 4600 Winding Way; Sacramento, CA; 95841

Find us on the web: www.Epiclesis.org
Need more information? Write us: Info@Epiclesis.org

Epiclesis Morning Prayer & Communion for the Fall Season

ALL: +In the sacred name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Sentences

ALL: One thing I have asked of the Lord,
this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life;
to behold the beauty of the Lord
and to seek Him in His temple.

Call: Who is it that You seek?

Response (All): We seek the Lord our God.

Call: Do You seek Him with all Your heart? Response (All): Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Call: Do You seek Him with all Your soul? Response (All): Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Call: Do You seek Him with all Your mind? Response (All): Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Call: Do You seek Him with all Your strength? Response (All): Amen. Christ, have mercy.

Declaration of Faith

ALL: To whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life, and
we have believed and have come to know that
You are the Holy One of God.

Pause.

ALL: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Confession

And so, brothers and sisters, we come to God aware that we need Him completely and want nothing to stand between us. We draw near, and as we are held, we look into the face of the One who holds us. And gradually our own faces and our lives begin to reflect His beauty.

Pause.

ALL: Eternal Light, shine into our hearts.

Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support.

Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us.

Grant that we may ever seek Your face with all our heart, soul, and strength. And in Your infinite mercy bring us at last to the fullness of Your presence where we shall behold Your glory and live Your promised joys.

Amen, Amen, Amen,

Creed

ALL: We believe in God

who is never confined to our imagining, is never in bondage to our understanding and never kept within our dwelling places.

Our God is the mystery
of divine and human, bound together,
of power and vulnerability,
of crucifixion and resurrection.

Our God is the wonder
of truth and compassion,
of liberation and responsibility,
of eternal wisdom and amazing grace.

ALL: We celebrate this God
who leaps free of all our boundaries in love,
stretching out beyond any barricades
and, in mercy, bending deep
into fragile hearts.

Pause.

Scripture Readings for the Day

Pause.

Meditation for the Day

Pause.

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Pause.

Prayer of Commitment

This day is Your gift to us; We receive it, Lord, from Your hand and thank You for the wonder of it.

ALL: God be with me in this Your day,
every day and every way,
with me and for me
in this Your day; and the love and affection
of heaven be toward me.

All that I am, Lord,

ALL: I place into Your hands.

All that I do, Lord,

ALL: I place into Your hands.

Everything for which I work,

ALL: I place into Your hands.

Everything for which I hope, ALL: I place into Your hands.

The troubles that weary me,
ALL: I place into Your hands.

The passions that disturb me, ALL: I place into Your hands.

Each day for which I pray,

ALL: I place into Your hands.

Each one for whom I pray,

ALL: I place into Your hands.

Pause.

The Lord's Prayer (ALL)

Pause.

Passing of the Peace

Jesus said, "Do not let Your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. Peace I leave with You; My peace I give You." May we intimately know this peace with God and peace between each other. My brothers and sisters, the peace of Christ be with You.

ALL: And also with You.

The Eucharist

Invitation to Communion

Jesus said, "I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 8:11). At Emmaus, when our risen Lord sat at table with those who had walked with Him, He took bread, blessed and broke it, and He gave it to them. It was at that moment that their eyes were opened and they recognized Him. In the same way now He invites all who choose to trust Him to share in the broken bread.

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are You, God, faithful and strong. All of Your works declare Your glory and proclaim the work of Your hands.

In the beginning, You summoned light, darkness withdrew, and creation dawned. Then waters gathered on the face of the earth and life appeared.

When the days had ripened and the earth grown full in abundance, You created man and woman in Your image, the stewards of creation. You gave humankind breath and speech that we would find a voice to sing Your praise and to celebrate the creation You made and called good.

You make us glad by Your deeds, Lord; We sing for joy at what Your hands have done.

Because sin rose up to leave a scar, witnessed even in the earth, You initiated a divine plan that in the fullness of time will renew the whole of creation.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children, as a father joyfully welcomes his own, You called out a people to be Your own. From them You raised up Jesus, Your son, in whom all things were created, and through whom the whole world will be reconciled back to You. He healed the sick, though He Himself would suffer, and He offered life to sinners, though death itself would hunt Him down. But in love, He stretched out His arms on the hard wood of the cross, surrendered His spirit, and with His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, He destroyed the curse of our ancient enemy.

Someday, our victorious Savior will return and we will sit at the Table of the King in the new heavens and new earth. Until then, we gather, eat, drink, and remember the Body of Christ.

Father, let Your Holy Spirit move now in power over us and over our earthly gifts of bread and wine, that we may have communion in the body and blood of our Lord and Christ, and that in Him we may become one.

Amen?

ALL: Amen!

Words of Institution

On the night He gave Himself up for the redemption of the world, and while they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it. He gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

Receiving now this bread and wine, we honor the saving death of Jesus the Lord Christ, Who is High King above all kings, our champion, beloved, and friend.

His body and His blood for your redemption and mine.

Communion is shared.

Prayer after Communion

Oh, God, we thank You for walking together with us through the spilt blood and broken body of Your son, Jesus. In the peace this brokenness has brought us, we are made whole.

May we live as Your holy people, outstretching the edges of Your peaceable Kingdom. Amen.

Liturgy concludes >>

Canticle

ALL: Father, I abandon myself into Your hands; do with me what You will. Whatever You may do, I thank You: I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only Your will be done in me and in all Your creatures. I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into Your hands, I commend my soul; I offer it to You with all the love of my heart; For I love You, Lord, and so need to give myself:

To surrender myself into Your hands without reserve and with boundless confidence. For You are my Father.

(The "Prayer of Abandonment" by Charles de Foucauld)

Blessing

Lord, may Your glory be seen in us, that with all Your creation we may reach father up and farther in to all the goodness You have prepared for us in love.

ALL: +In the sacred name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.