

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 25, 2026 (Third Sunday of Epiphany)

GATHERING

Come, let us magnify the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to our Rock and our Salvation!

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them light has shone!**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?*

**One thing have I asked of the LORD; this one thing will 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 meditate in His temple.**

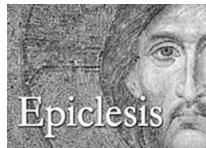
How blessed are those You choose and bring near
to dwell in Your courts!

*We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,
Your holy temple.*

**By awesome deeds You answer us in righteousness,
O God of our salvation, the hope of all the earth!**

— from Isaiah 9, Psalms 27 and 65:4-5





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!
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.

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; transl. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863.
Hymn tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

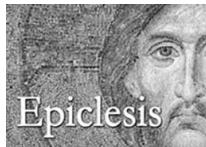
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty:
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice.

Chorus

How great is our God, sing with me: How great is our God;
And all will see how great, how great is our God.



Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands:
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, Lion and the Lamb.

Bridge

Name above all names, worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing, How great is our God. . . .

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

We give thanks with joy to the Father,
who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints
in the light.

**For He has rescued us from the domain of darkness,
and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption,
the forgiveness of sins.**

The Son is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.

**In Him all things in the heavens and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—
all things were created through Him and for Him.**

He is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.

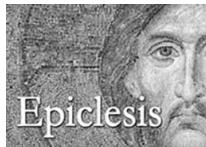
**For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Him God was pleased
to reconcile all things to Himself,
whether things on earth or things in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of His cross.**

God has made known to us
the riches of the glory of this mystery:

Christ in us, the hope of glory.

Thanks be to God!

– from Colossians 1:12-27



PRAYERS OF CONFESSON

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
You have said, "Seek My face."

My heart says to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

– Psalm 27:7-8

[Silence]

O LORD, You desire truth in our innermost being;
Teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Send out Your light and Your truth;
Let them lead us, and bring us to Your tabernacle.
Take away from us the guilt of our sin;
Then our tongues shall joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

[Silent confessions]

O LORD, You desire truth in our innermost being;
Teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

– from Psalm 43:4, 51:6

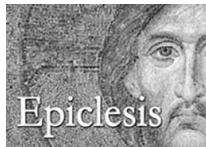
O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song,
The Lord is my praise;
All my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song,
The Lord is my praise;
God, the well-spring of life.



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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is good news indeed:

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the Light, just as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.

– 1 John 1:5,7

God, who said, “Let light 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 Jesus Christ.

– 2 Corinthians 4:6

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of thanksgiving and praise.

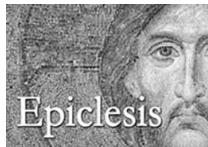
Lord of Lords

Beholding Your beauty is all that I long for.
To worship You, Jesus, is my sole desire.
For this very heart You have shaped for Your pleasure,
Purposed to lift Your name higher.

Here in surrender, in pure adoration,
I enter Your courts with an off'ring of praise.
I am Your servant, come to bring You glory,
As is fit for the works of Your hands.

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.
All of creation resounds with the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords.

Spirit now living and dwelling within me,
Keep my eyes fixed ever on Jesus' face.
Let not the things of this world ever sway me,
I'll run 'til I finish the race.



Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.

All of creation resounds with the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord –

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.

All of eternity echoes the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords.

Holy Lord, You are holy. Jesus Christ is the Lord. . . .

Now unto the Lamb who sits on the throne,
Be glory and honour and praise.

Call all the sinners to join in the song:
Worship and praise Him, the Lord of lords. Lord of lords . . .

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THE WORD

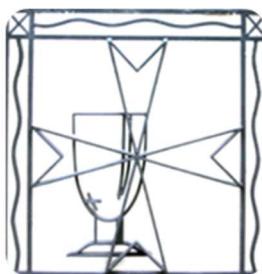
Psalm 27

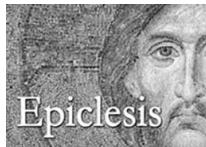
THE TABLE

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.**

King of Wisdom and Light

Holy, holy, holy,
God of power and might:
Heaven is filled with Your glory,
King of wisdom and light.

We worship You, we praise You,
God Most High;
We worship You, we praise You,
King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

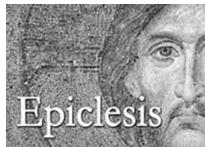
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Jim Cowan

**SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body**

Benediction

May the Lord bless us and keep us.
May the Lord smile on us, shine His light upon us.
May the Lord lift us, turn His face towards us,
Give us His peace, give us His peace.
Blessed we came to this place today,
And blessed now, we will go.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.
Go now in peace; go now in peace.

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Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin



Benediction:

Almighty God,

whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

Grant that Your people, illumined by Your word and Table,
may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory.

Amen.

And as we go forth into the world

to love and serve the Lord,

May He be so manifest in us

that our lives are light to all those around us:

to the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“We, whose spiritual eyes have been opened by the Word, Jesus Christ, and who see the difference between light and darkness, prefer to take our stand ‘in the light.’ We won’t have anything at all to do with darkness. In addition, the true Light, endowed with life, knows who to reveal His full splendor to and to whom His light. For He doesn’t just display His brilliance due to the weakness in the recipient’s eyes. And whose eyes are affected and injured if we must speak of them at all? Those who are ignorant of God and whose passions prevent them from seeing the truth. Christians, however, aren’t blinded by the words of those who opposed worshiping God. But let those who know they are blinded by following crowds who are in error and groups that keep festivals to demons, draw near to the Word, Jesus Christ. He can give the gift of sight. Like the poor and blind whom . . . Jesus healed because they said to Him, ‘Son of David, have mercy upon me,’ those who draw near to Him will also receive mercy and recover their eyesight, created fresh and beautiful by the Word of God.”

– Origen

Image credits – p. 4: Linda McCray, *The True Light*, contemp. (John 1:9); p. 6: Greek Cross with Chalice, 1960. Vanderbilt Divinity School. Benton Chapel.

Lectionary for next week: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

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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