

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 20, 2026 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the Lord, to exalt His name,
and to proclaim His story!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

We exalt You, our God and King!

Every day I will bless You;

I will praise Your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

His greatness is unsearchable.

**All Your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all Your saints shall bless You!**

The LORD is good to all,

and His mercies are over all His works.

**On the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

One generation shall praise Your works to another;

they shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom

and tell of Your power, to make known to the children of men

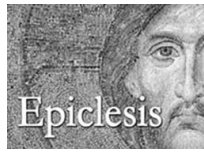
Your mighty deeds and the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

and Your dominion endures throughout all generations!

— from Psalm 145:1-13





O, Worship the King

O, worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
O, girded with praise.

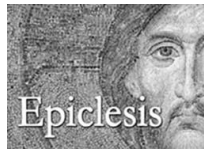
O, tell of His might and sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is the path on the wings of the storm.
O, sing of His grace.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
O, worship the King;
Worship the King.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.
Redeemer and Friend,
He's our Redeemer and Friend,
O, worship the King.

Redeemer and Friend,
He's our Redeemer and Friend,
O, worship the King.
Worship the King.

Words: Robert Grant, in *Christian Psalmody*, 1833;
Adapted from William Kethe, the Genevan *Psalter*, 1561.
Hymn tune: LYONS, attrib. Johann M. Hadyn.
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2004



PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

I Will Exalt You

I will exalt You, I will exalt You,
I will exalt You; You are my God.
Because You're with me, because You're with me,
Because You're with me, I will not fear.

My hiding place, my safe refuge,
My treasure, Lord, You are.
My friend and King, Anointed One, most holy.

CCLI Song #5409079 ©2009 Hillsong Publishing Australia. Brooke Ligertwood.

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:

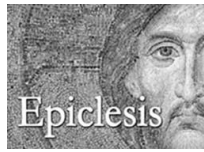
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
*He has looked favorably on His people
and redeemed them.*

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of His servant David.
*Through His holy prophets He promised of old,
that He would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.*

Thus He has shown the mercy promised to our fathers,
and has remembered His holy covenant.
*This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies:*

**Free to serve Him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness all our days.
In the tender mercy of our God,
the Dayspring from on high has come to us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

— adapted from Canticale 16, “The Song of Zechariah” (Luke 1:68-79)



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, our God, there is no God like You in heaven or on earth,
keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to Your servants
who walk before You with all their heart.

– 2 Chronicles 6:14

[Silence]

O God, our true Life, in whom and by whom all things live,
You command us to seek You, and are ready to be found;
You bid us knock, and open when we do so.

**To know You is life,
to serve You is freedom,
to enjoy You is a kingdom,
to praise You is the joy and happiness of the soul.
I humbly beseech You to abide with me,
to reign in me,
to make this heart of mine a holy temple,
a fit habitation for Your Divine majesty.**

**O Maker and Preserver of all things, visible and invisible!
Keep, I beseech You, the work of Your own hands,
who trusts in Your mercy alone for safety and protection.
Guard me with the power of Your grace, here and in all places,
now and at all times, forevermore. Amen.**

(a prayer of Augustine)

Bless the Lord

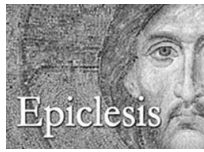
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

*Songs and Prayers from Taizé; ©1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé,
F-71250 Taizé Community, France*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the LORD, whose judgments are in all the earth,
who remembers His covenant forever,
the word which He commanded to a thousand generations.

– Psalm 105:7-8



The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*The LORD is good to all,
and His tender mercies are over all His works.*

He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;
He also will hear their cry and save them.

The LORD preserves those who love Him.

**All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,
and Your saints shall bless You.**

– Psalm 145: 8-10, 19-20a

Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Breathing the Breath

We have nothing to give that didn't first come from Your hands.
We have nothing to offer You which You did not provide.
Every good perfect gift comes from Your kind and gracious heart;
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

Chorus

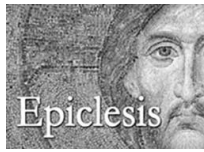
Lord, we're breathing the breath that You gave us to breathe
To worship You, to worship You.
And we're singing these songs with the very same breath
To worship You, to worship You.

Who has given to You that it should be paid back to him?
Who has given to You as if You needed anything?
From You and to You and through You come all things, O Lord;
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

Bridge:

We are breathing the breath
That You gave us to breathe (repeat)

CCLI Song #4328876 ©2004 ThankYou Music. Matt Redman.



THE WORD

Psalm 145

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,

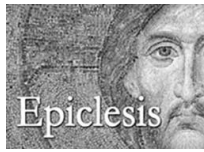
But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,

And the power, and the glory,

Forever. Amen.





You Have Been Good

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.
O Lord, Your steadfast love
And tender mercy have been our salvation.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, Almighty God,
Father unchanging, upright and holy.

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful,
You have been good.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

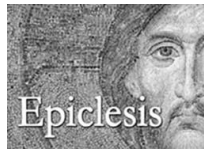
Aaron's Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you. (echo)
May the Lord make His face to shine on you. (echo)
And be gracious to you. (echo).

May the Lord lift His countenance on you. (echo)
May the Lord lift His countenance on you. (echo)
May He keep you in perfect peace. (echo)

CCLI Song #6128634 ©2011 Kachitower Music. Fernando Ortega.





Benediction

Beloved, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, may we have always such an awareness of His steadfast love and mercies and transforming power, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth His praise—not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to His service and walking before Him in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Amen.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“All our power is from God. From God, I say. From Him we have life, from Him we have strength. By the power originated in and received from Him we know the signs of things to come while we are still in this world. Let fear keep you innocent; then the Lord, who has mercifully flooded our hearts with grace, will dwell in your grateful mind. And our assurance won't give way to a carelessness that would allow the old enemy to creep up on us again. But if you keep the way of innocence and righteousness, if you walk with a firm and steady step, if you depend on God with all your strength and all your heart, and simply are what you have begun to be, then freedom and power will be given to you proportionate to His grace. For, unlike earthly benefits, these heavenly gifts dispensed by God are not regulated or restrained. The Spirit flows freely and isn't restrained by any limits. He isn't held back by any barriers but flows continually and liberally. Let our hearts be thirsty and ready to receive.”

– Cyprian

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Lectionary for next week: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4,12-16; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-9; Matthew 21:23-32

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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