



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 27, 2011



GATHERING

O send out Your light and your truth; let them lead me;

Let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling.

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my exceeding joy;

and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,

and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall yet praise him, my help and my God.

— from Psalm 43:3-5

Lord God Almighty, King of glory and love eternal,

You are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing.

We praise You now for sending Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,

for whom our hearts wait, and to whom,

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,

be honor and dominion, now and for ever. Amen.



Trust Him, Mark Lawrence, Contemporary



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: Latin hymn, *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, 1710.

Verse transl., John M. Neale. Music: Adapted from Plainsong by Thomas Helmore

INVOCATION

Prayers of invocation and of praise

**O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,
the Expectation and Savior of the nations:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

You'll Come

I have decided, I have resolved, to wait upon You, Lord.
My Rock and Redeemer, Shield and Reward,
I'll wait upon You, Lord.

As surely as the sun will rise You'll come to us,
Certain as the dawn appears –

Chorus:

You'll come; let Your glory fall as You're revealed to us.
Emmanuel, free our captive, waiting hearts anew.
You'll come, You'll come.



We are not shaken, we are not moved; we wait upon You, Lord.
Mighty Deliverer, Triumph and Truth, we wait upon You, Lord.

As surely as the sun will rise You'll come to us,
Certain as Your word endures –

CCLI Song No. 5012583; ©2007 Hillsong Publishing; Brooke Fraser
(Chorus text altered, C. Alford and E. Koehler) CCLI License # 3097801

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.

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.

Leader:

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”).

A hymn of the early church, fourth century.

Attributed to church fathers Ambrose and Augustine.



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Test: Charles Wesley; Music: Rowland H. Prichard; hymn tune: Hyfrydol

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

[Spoken refrain]

**Come, and restore us, LORD God Almighty;
make Your face shine upon us,
that we may be saved.**

Psalm 80:19

Individual prayers of confession

Lord Hear My Prayer and Let My Cry Come
to You, St. Albens Psalter, 12th Century





ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

The Lord's grace is sure. God has looked with favor upon His people and has redeemed them. God has raised up a mighty Savior from the house of David. God has shown mercy and has remembered His promises.

In Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

—from Luke 1:68-72, 1 Tim. 1:15

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and devotion

Prepare a Place

Prepare a place while you're waiting.
Prepare a place for the coming One.
Prepare a place and be patient
While you wait for the coming One.
Wait for the coming One.
While you wait for the coming One.

Prepare your heart while you're waiting.
Prepare your heart for the coming One.
Set time aside and be quiet
While you wait for the coming One.
Wait for the coming One. While you wait for the coming One.

©2004 Mighty Grey Music/Lil' Yella House/Dayspring. Words and music by Christine Dente and Michael W. Smith.



LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

Reading: from Isaiah 56:1 and 64:1-9

Lighting of the candle

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord.

We light this candle as a symbol of expectation and hope of the coming of our Savior, Jesus.

May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way to salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel!

Leader: Prepare, then, the way of the Lord.



THE WORD

Mark 13:24-37

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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.





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 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.

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Lo, He comes with clouds descending,
Once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold Him,
Robed in dreadful majesty!
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Now the Savior, long-expected,
See in solemn pomp appear.
All His saints, by man rejected,
Now shall meet Him in the air.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the day of God appear.

Yes, amen! Let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne.
Savior, take the pow'r and glory;
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.
O come quickly! O come quickly! Everlasting God, come down!

Text: Charles Wesley and Martin Madan; based on John Cennick; Music: Henry T. Smart



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

I Don't Mind Waiting

(Juanita Bynum)

I don't mind waiting, I don't mind waiting,
I don't mind waiting on the Lord

Benediction:

God is faithful; by Him you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (from 1 Cor. 1:8,9)

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come quickly Lord Jesus. Maranatha!

A thought about worship...— “Advent is a time when we ask, even plead with God not to leave us alone, for when God leaves us to our own choices and turns us over to our own ways, we are certain to drift from him. . . . If we would break away from a spiritual life growing cold and a Christ who is becoming distant, we must be attentive to our spiritual discipline and long for God to break in on us with new life. When we do this, we experience the true meaning of Advent spirituality.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 43, 53).

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2,8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
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.

©2011 E.K.