



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

May 5, 2013 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to the Lord

Matt Crocker, Mike Guglielmucci

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

May God be gracious to us and bless us,

and cause His face to shine upon us,

That Your way may be known upon the earth,

Your salvation among all nations.

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

For You judge the peoples with uprightness

and guide the nations upon the earth.

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, has blessed us.

God blesses us,

that all the ends of the earth revere Him.

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

— Psalm 67



Christ Healing at the Pool of Bethesda,
Carl Bloch, 1883



I Will Sing

I will sing (echo)
Of Your great love (echo),
And I will tell (echo)
Of all You've done (echo).
With Your praise on my lips
I'll declare Your faithfulness;
I will sing (echo)
Of Your great love.

Verse 1

I seek You in the morning,
Your tenderness and mercy fill my cup.
Your grace is overflowing,
You satisfy my needs and fill me up.
So I will sing –

Verse 2

The heavens praise Your wonders,
And I will lift my voice and join the song.
Your glory shines around me,
Your faithfulness surrounds me all day long.
So I will sing –

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Music. Carl Albrecht, Ed Kerr, Leann Albrecht.





INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God, and man the Son;
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair is the sunshine;
Fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host.
Jesus shines brighter;
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior!
Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine

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transl. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873. Music: *Schleische Volkslieder*, 1842



Camino de Santiago, Don Bowes, 2013



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Saints, hear and receive this testimony from the Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, ... and the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

Its temple is the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb.

It has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

The nations will walk by its light; and only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life may enter it.

There will no longer be any curse; the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him.

We will see His face, and His name will be on our foreheads.

And there will be no more night; we will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be our light, and we will reign with Him forever and ever.

– from Revelation 21:10 – 22:5

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.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

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 1:12-28

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession



[Silence]

Lord, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go. Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our soul. Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus! Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine... Let us preach You without preaching, not by words but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You.

A prayer of John Henry Newman

[Silent confessions]

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.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is faithful and true. This is His promise of pardon:

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD.
Look to the Rock from which you were hewn.

For the LORD will comfort His people; joy and gladness will be found in them, thanksgiving and the voice of song. And His justice will be a light to the peoples: His salvation will be forever, and His deliverance will never be ended.

— from Isaiah 51:1-6

O Lord, Hear My Prayer (verse 2)

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



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise ...

Jesus, I am Resting

Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art.
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul.
For by Thy transforming power, Thou hast made me whole.

Chorus:

Jesus, I am resting, resting
In the joy of what Thou art.
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart.

Oh, how great Thy loving kindness, vaster, broader than the sea.
Oh, how marvelous Thy goodness lavished all on me.
Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is Thine;
Know Thy certainty of promise and have made it mine.

Simply trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, I behold Thee as Thou art.
And Thy love so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart;
Satisfies its deepest longings, meets, supplies its ev'ry need,
Compasseth me 'round with blessings, this is love indeed.

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THE WORD

John 5:1-9

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 (sung)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heav'n.
Provide each day our daily needs;
Forgive our sins as we forgive others' wrongs;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom, forever and ever;
And Thine is the power, forever and ever;
And Thine is the glory, now and forever,
Amen, amen, amen.

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I Can Hear Your Voice

I'm in the river that flows from Your throne;
Water of life, Water of life.
It covers me and I breathe again;
Your love is breath to my soul.

I can hear Your voice
As You sing over me,
It's Your song of hope
Breathing life into me.
I can feel Your touch
As I come close to You,
And it heals my heart,
You restore and renew.

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Debbie Smith, Michael W. Smith, Whitney Smith

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Jesus, I am Resting (verse 4)

Ever lift Thy face upon me as I work and wait for Thee;
Resting 'neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth's dark shadows flee.
Brightness of the Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face,
Keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with Thy grace.

Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art.
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.

CCLI Song #2697066; ©1998 New Spring, Pigott; Hampton

Benediction:

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord.

Because He has triumphed over death, and the Messiah is Lord over all creation, Savior of the world now and forever, you also live.

Alleluia! Amen!

Since we have been raised with Christ, let us now go forth as His witnesses, loving and serving Him in the joy and victorious power of His resurrection.

Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Let us allow Christ to speak through us. He desires it more than we do. For He made this instrument and wouldn't want it to be useless and idle. He always wants to keep it in His hands. Why, then, don't you make it useful for the Maker's hand? ... You should keep all its parts completely stretched, well strung, and reinforced with spiritual salt. For if Christ sees your soul tuned this way, He will make His music through it. When this has taken place, you will see angels leaping for joy (archangels and the cherubim too). So then, let us become worthy of His spotless hands.... Considering that He runs to those who haven't become their best yet, when He sees one completely equipped, what won't He do? If Christ makes music and the Spirit rests on us, we will be better than heaven. Although we won't have the sun and the moon adorning our body, the Lord of the sun, moon, and angels will be dwelling and walking in us..”
– Chrysostom

Lectionary for next week: Acts 1:1-11; Psalms 47 and 93; Ephesians 1:15-23;
Luke 24:44-53

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

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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