



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 9, 2011 (Baptism of the Lord)

GATHERING

Give unto the LORD glory and strength.

Give unto the LORD the glory due His name;

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

In His temple, all cry “Glory!”

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood,

yes, the LORD sits as King forever.

The LORD will give strength to His people;

the LORD will bless His people with peace.

Come, let us magnify the LORD and exalt His name together.

– from Psalm 29



Baptism of Christ, Fra Angelico, ca. 1400 - 1455



In the Beauty of Holiness

Verse 1

In the beauty of holiness
We see You, Son of righteousness,
So we bring all that we possess
To lay at Your feet.
In the place where Your glory shines,
Jesus lover of all mankind,
You have drawn us with love divine
To make us complete.

Chorus

So I pause at Your gates once more,
As my heart and my spirit soar,
And I wish I could love You more:
My God and my King!

Verse 2

Is there tribute that I could bring,
Was there ever a song to sing,
That could ever express, my King,
The work that You've done?
Could I ever conceive of this,
All the depths and the heights and breadth,
Of the riches I now possess
Because of Your love?

CCLI Song No. 3355163; © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Robin Mark

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

So I pause at Your gates once more....



PROFESSION OF FAITH

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,
but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.

After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father”?

Or again, “I will be his Father, and e will be my son”?

And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says, “Let all God’s angels worship Him.”

In speaking of the angels He says, “He makes His angels spirits, and His servants flames of fire.”

But about the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has set You above Your companions by anointing You with the oil of joy.”

– Hebrews 1:1-9



Baptism of Christ 2, Daniel Bonnell, Contemporary



Amen

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

See the little baby (amen), Lying in a manger (amen),
On Christmas morning – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him at the water (amen), With the baptizer (amen),
And the Spirit came upon Him – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him at the sea side (amen), Preaching and healing (amen)
The blind and the feeble – Amen, amen, amen.

See Him in the garden (amen), Praying to His Father (amen),
In deepest sorrow – Amen, amen, amen.

Then they crucified Him (amen), Jesus, our Savior (amen),
And He rose on Easter! Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Public domain. Words and music: traditional African-American spiritual. Vs. 2, Chris Alford.

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on me, a sinner.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

©2002 Petaluma Music; Setting by David Baker

Eternal and merciful God, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan, you proclaimed Him to be your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all we who have been born of water and the Spirit may keep the covenant we have made – to love



You, the Lord our God, with all our hearts and souls and minds and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves – to the glory of your name.

By your Spirit, confirm in our hearts that Christ Jesus is the Savior of the world and our Lord

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 103:1-12, 17-18 (chant)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.*

He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;*

He redeems your life from the grave, and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;*

He satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.*

The Lord executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.*

He made His ways known to Moses and His works to the children of Israel.*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.*

He will not always accuse us, nor will He keep His anger for ever.*

He has not dealt with us according to our sins.*

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is His mercy great upon those who fear* Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our sins from* us.

The merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever*

on those who fear Him,*

On those who keep His covenant*

and remember His commandments to do them.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.*

TIME OF OFFERING



Adoration

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
Bow down before Him, His glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore Him, the Lord is His name.

Fear not to enter His presence in poverty,
Bearing no gifts to present as your own.
Bring truth in its beauty and love in its purity;
These are the off'rings to lay at His throne.

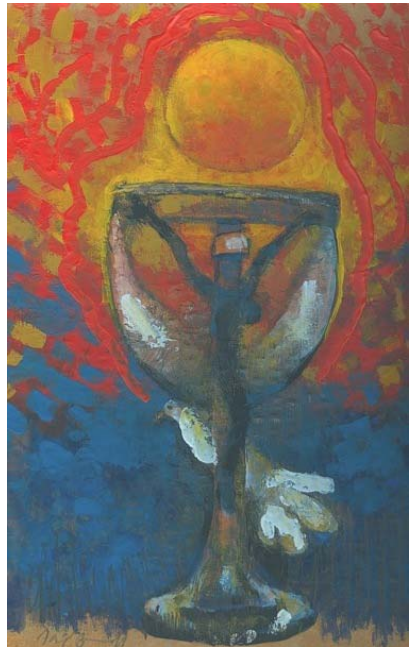
©1985 Pilot Point Music. Text: John S. Monsell, vs. 1; Ken Bible, vs. 1. Music: Tom Fette.

THE WORD

Isaiah 42:1-9
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ



The Dove and the Eucharist #9, Daniel Bonnell,
Contemporary

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

Flow Like a River

Flow like a river, fall like the rain;
Streams of compassion flow from His throne.
Wide as the ocean, deep as the sea;
Life-giving fountain, is God's love for me.

Feast at the table of mercy,
Drink from the cup of His grace.
Dwell in His infinite goodness,
Live in His healing embrace.

CCLI Song No. 2989523. ©2000 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Steve Merkel.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light,
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The Star of my life is Jesus.

Chorus

In Him there is no darkness at all;
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ;
I want to follow Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus.

CCLI Song No. 89848; ©1970, 1975 Celebration; Kathleen Thomerson

And now may God the Father, who sent his Spirit upon his Son,
 bless you with the presence of his Spirit;
 may Jesus, who received the Spirit and manifested the Father,
 abide in you and make you a manifestation of his life;
 and may God the Spirit, who came upon Christ in the fullness of
 power, empower you to live a life of faith:
To the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship...

“We are the disciples whom Christ has called in the twenty-first century. . . . We are called to turn away from self-love and self-service, to abandon a life lived for self-gratification or self-glory, and to serve God as an epiphany of the self-giving service of Jesus. True spirituality longs for, seeks for, and wills this abandonment of self so that Christ may become present through our work, our lives, and our relationships, manifesting his power.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004, 63.)

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.