



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

January 8, 2012 (Baptism of the Lord)

## GATHERING

Ascribe to 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 say, "Glory!"**

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood,

Yes, the LORD sits enthroned as King forever.

**Splendor and majesty are before Him,**

**Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**

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 Psalms 29 and 96



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



## *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.

You're the name above all names, You're worthy of all praise  
My heart will sing how great is our God

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## INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

### Cantor:

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



*All Creatures of Our God and King*

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam;  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

**Through Him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried.*

**The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.**

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.*

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.**

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.  
*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

Nicene Creed



*All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 5)*

Let all things their Creator bless  
And worship Him in humbleness  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism You promise forgiveness of sins and newness of life. But too often we fail to live out our baptisms – putting off the *old* self who has been buried with Christ in His death and putting on the *new* self, raised to the new life of the Spirit.

We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves. ...

we cling to destructive habits ...

we hold grudges ...

we are reluctant to welcome one another ...

we allow the past to hold us hostage ...

**In Your loving-kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin.  
Remind us of the promises You make in baptism, that we may die to  
sin and live in resurrection to new life made possible by Your divine  
embrace.**



### *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

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the promise of God's pardon:

You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption.

**When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.**

Praise God that in the power of the Spirit we are joint heirs with Christ! In Him, we are forgiven.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

— from Romans 8:15-17

(sung)

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

### TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of thanksgiving and devotion.

God of heaven and earth, You call us to come in humility before You, bringing the offering of our very selves. As You revealed Jesus to be Your Son in His baptism at the hand of John, so You claimed our lives in baptism, that we might die to sin and be raised with Him to new life. **Accept all we have and all we are, O God, as expressions of our devotion, love and worship. May we be always, only, all for Thee.**



## *Take My Life*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

### *Chorus:*

Here am I, all of me;  
Take my life, it's all for Thee.

### *Verse 2*

Take my voice and let me sing always only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.  
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use ev'ry power as Your choose.

### *Verse 3*

Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Your feet its treasure store.  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

CCLI Song No. 4162843; ©2003 worshipttogether.com songs; Tomlin/Hevergal/Malan/Giglio

## THE WORD

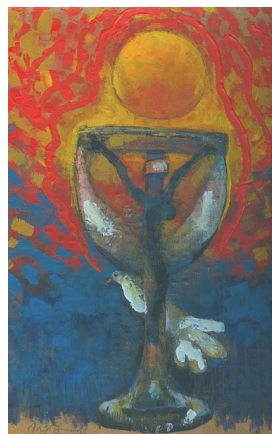
### Lectionary:

Genesis 1:1-5; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

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



### *The Lord's Prayer (sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by Your Name.  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,  
On earth as in heav'n.  
Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

### *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



Baptism of Christ 2, Daniel Bonnell, Contemporary



*All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 6)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below:  
O Praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams

**Benediction:**

God the Father, who sent His Spirit upon His Son, bless you with the presence of His Spirit.  
Jesus, who received the Spirit and manifested the Father, abide in you and make you a manifestation of His life.  
And God the Spirit, who came upon Christ in the fullness of power, empower you to live in the pattern of baptismal spirituality revealed in Jesus.  
To the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*A thought about worship...*—“The baptized life is a life that is lived in the *pattern of death and resurrection*. . . . The way of being in Jesus, the way of living the new resurrected life, is through participation. . . . We participate in Christ by living the life of our baptism into his death and resurrection. This is a daily, existential, moment-by-moment experience as we choose in this or that situation to die to the sins for which Christ died and choose the life of the Spirit for which Christ was raised to a new life.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 146-147.)

**Lectionary for next week:** 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

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.

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