



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

January 23, 2011 (Third Sunday of Epiphany)

*Heaven and Nature Sing! Jesus Brings Joy to the Nations*

## GATHERING

O come, let us lift up the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to our Rock and our Salvation!

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined!**

You have multiplied the nation, You have increased its joy.

**They rejoice before You with joy and exultation, for the yoke of their burden and the rod of their oppressor You have broken.**

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,

Let us offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle!

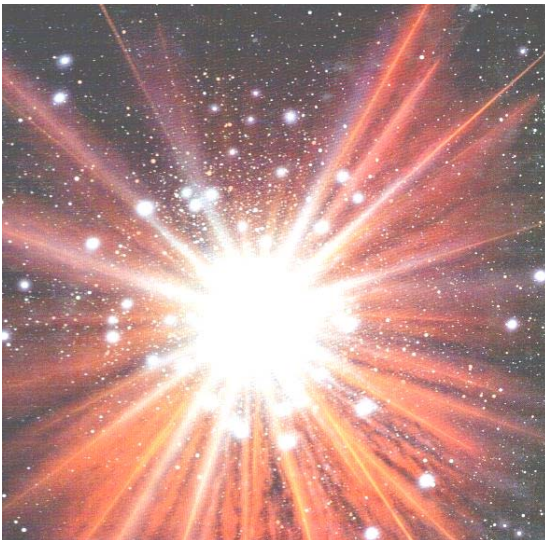
**One thing I have desired of the Lord, that I will seek:**

**That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple.**

Jesus Christ has come to bring light and joy to the nations.

**We will sing; yes, we will sing praises to the Lord!**

– based on Isaiah 9:1-4 and Psalm 27





*Immortal Invisible (Your Great Name We Praise)*

*Verse 1*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes.  
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 2*

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light;  
Not wanting or wasting, You rule us in might.  
Your Justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
Your Clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

*Chorus*

Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 3*

All life comes from You, Lord, to both great and small;  
In all life You live, Lord, the true Life of all.  
We blossom and flourish but quickly grow frail;  
We wither and perish, but You never fail.

*Verse 4*

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light;  
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we will render, oh Father of Grace;  
Till one day in splendor we see face to face.

CCLI Song #4088941; © 2001 Sovereign Grace Praise; Bob Kauflin | Walter Chalmers Smith

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.**

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

*In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*

There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.

*He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.*

**There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.**

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

*He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.*

**But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

**And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.**

John 1:1-14, 18

Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise.

### *Gloria Patri*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in shadows rather than the light. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness that so easily shrouds our lives. Illumine us, we pray, that we may live in your light and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Psalm 27: 1, 4-9*

Refrain: *The Lord is my Light*

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation;  
In God I trust, in God I trust.

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

(spoken)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?  
One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;  
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord  
and to seek him in his temple.

*Refrain*

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a  
rock.  
Even now he lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.  
Therefore in his dwelling I will offer sacrifices with sounds of great  
gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord.



*Refrain*

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.  
You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face.”  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.  
Hide not your face from me,  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.  
You have been my helper; cast me not away;  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

*Refrain*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We give thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. In Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross.

– from Colossians 1:12-20

*Refrain*

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation;  
In God I trust, in God I trust.



Journey with Jesus, He Qi, Contemporary



## TIME OF OFFERING

Prayers of thanksgiving and commitment

### *How Great is our God*

#### *Verse 1*

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.

#### *Verse 2*

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.

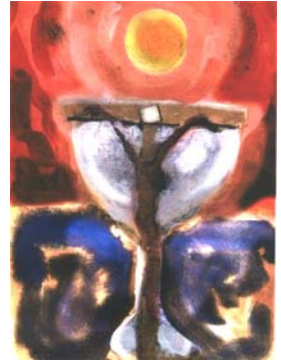
CCLI Song No. 4348399; ©2004 worshiptogether.com songs; Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

## THE WORD

Isaiah 9:1-4

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23



## THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

*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

Eucharist, Bonnell, Contemporary

*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.

*Verse 2*

I want to see the brightness of God, I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father.

*Verse 3*

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



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

*Christ, Be our Light*

Longing for light, we were in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turned to You.  
Make us your own, Your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in Your church sent forth today.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
Grant that Your people, illumined by Your word and Table, may shine  
with the radiance of Christ's glory,  
that He may be known, worshiped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*A thought about worship...*

“Since I have come to understand that worship is a celebration of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ . . . I love to be at worship and to experience again and again the reality of Christ. Worship is a celebration that puts me in touch with the truth that shapes my whole life, and I have found it to be a necessary element for my own spiritual formation.” (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds of Salvation* [Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992], 27.)

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.