



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 22, 2012 (Third Sunday of Epiphany)

GATHERING

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before Him with thanksgiving
and extol Him with music and song.

The LORD is my rock and my salvation, my shield and fortress.

I will call upon the LORD, who alone is worthy to be praised.

For who is God, but the LORD?

And who is a rock, except our God?

**The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation!**

— from Psalms 18 and 95:1-2



Held Firm and Strong, Visual Theology, Dave Perry, 2012



Made Me Glad

I will bless the Lord forever;
I will trust Him at all times.
He has delivered me from all fear;
He has set my feet upon a rock.
And I will not be moved,
And I'll say of the Lord –

Chorus:

You are my Shield, my Strength,
My portion, Deliverer;
My Shelter, Strong Tower,
My very present Help in time of need.

Verse 2:

Whom have I in heaven but You?
There's none I desire beside You.
And You have made me glad,
I'll say of the Lord –

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

You have made me glad, and I'll say of the Lord –
You are my Shield, my Strength,
My portion, Deliverer;
My Shelter, Strong Tower,
My very present Help in time of need.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

**He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.**

In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us.

In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Himself:

That is, in the fullness of the times, He might sum up all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose, who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we should be to the praise of His glory.

In Him, we also were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

— from Ephesians 1:3-14

Our Great Savior

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus, Lover of my soul!
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus:

Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

Jesus! I do now adore Him, more than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

Text: J. Wilbur Chapman; Music: Rowland H. Prichard; Tune: Hyfrydol



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession:

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

– Psalm 62:5-12

[Silent confessions]

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We do not always love you with a pure heart. We do not always love our neighbor as ourselves. We do not always do justice and love kindness.

We desire to walk humbly with You, in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. Cleanse us from our sin, that we may be holy and blameless before You.

Whiter Than Snow

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
I want You forever to live in my soul.
Break down ev'ry idol, cast out ev'ry foe.
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Chorus

Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, before You I patiently wait;
Come now and within me a new heart create.
To those who have sought You, You never said no.
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Text: James Nicholson; Music: William G. Fischer



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is what the Lord says:

If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve Me and stand before Me.

—Jeremiah 15:19

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

In your lovingkindness, Almighty God, You have called us to Yourself and graced us with immeasurable blessings. Gratefully we acknowledge that all our hope is in Christ, our rock and salvation. With thanksgiving, we bring Your tithes and our offerings as a sign of love, trust, devotion, and worship.

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.

Verse 3

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

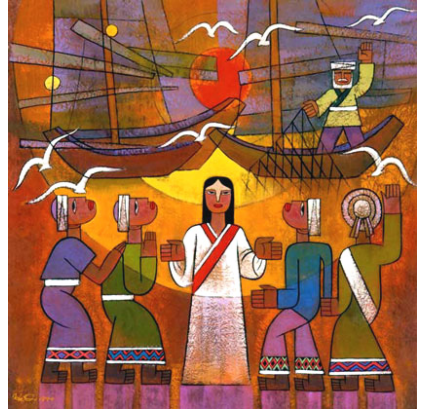
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THE WORD

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Mark 1:14-20



THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Calling the disciples, He Qi, 2001

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.

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.



I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

Chorus:

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior,
Oh there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and pow'r.

Chorus

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance, Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.

Chorus

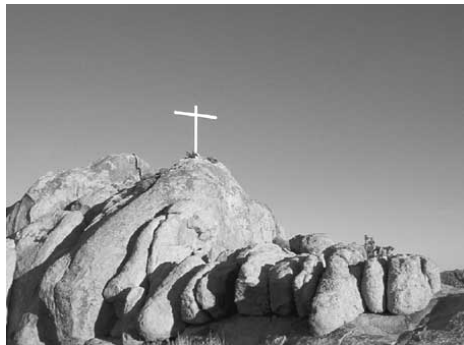
Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

Chorus

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream.
All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body





The Solid Rock

Verse 4

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

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Benediction:

As you go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, do so remembering that He who calls and saves us is a Rock and Fortress. Therefore you shall not be shaken.

And now may Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and always.

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

A thought about worship...— “We are the disciples whom Jesus has 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], 88.)

Lectionary for next week: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111,
1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

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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