



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 30, 2011 (Fourth Sunday of Epiphany)

Heaven and Nature Sing! Jesus Teaches a New Way of Life

GATHERING

The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains,
the world, and all who dwell in it.

He has established His faithfulness in the heavens;

I will sing of the Lord's great covenant love forever.

The heavens praise Your wonders, O Lord;

Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.

For who in the heavens or on earth can be compared to the Lord?

Righteousness and justice are the foundations of His throne.

Lovingkindness and truth are before His face.

Blessed are those who know the joyful sound!

They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your presence.

**In Your name we rejoice all day long, and celebrate Your
righteousness, for You are our glory and strength.**

The Lord has shown forth His glory.

Come, let us joyfully lift His praises.

—from Psalm 89:1-18



Le Songe de Jacob, Marc Chagall, 2002



All People That On Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

O enter then His gates with praise;
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

Bridge:

Sing to the Lord, exalt His name;
O, make His praise glorious.
Pour forth His praise,
His anthem raise;
Rejoice in Him forever.

For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

Bridge

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

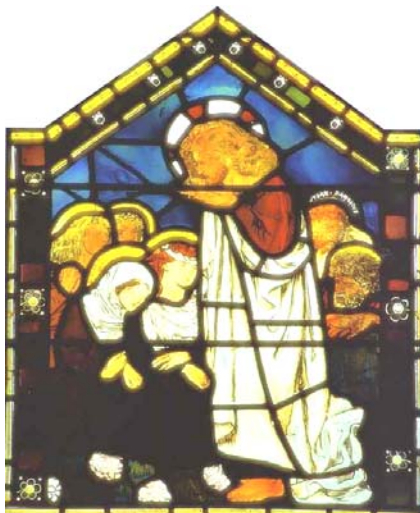
Words from *Fourscore and Seven Psalms of David* (Geneva, 1561), attributed to William Kethe. Music: *Old 100th*, attributed to Louis Bourgeois.
Setting and bridge: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010



INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

The Sermon on the Mount,
Dante Gabriel Rossetti, 1862



PROFESSION OF FAITH

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise;

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not,
to reduce to nothing things that are,

So that no one might boast in the presence of God.

He is the source of our life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption, – in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

– from 1 Corinthians 1:18-31



The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

Cantor:

And seeing the multitudes, Jesus went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying –

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful
for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Cantor:

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say
all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in heaven; for in the
same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old, with sacrifices for my transgressions and the sin of my soul?

God has told you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
– from Micah 6:4-8

A Pure Heart

A pure heart, that's what I long for,
A heart that follows hard after You.
(repeat)

A heart that hides Your Word so that sin will not come in,
A heart that's undivided, but one You rule and reign.
A heart that beats compassion, that pleases You, my Lord;
A sweet aroma of worship that rises to Your throne.

CCLI Song No. 452695. ©1992 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Rusty Nelson

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.

Thanks be to God.

Who may stand ascend the hill of the Lord, and who may stand in His holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
whose walk is blameless, who do what is righteous,
who speak the truth from their hearts,
who do no wrong to a neighbor,
who honor those who fear the Lord.**

They shall receive a blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of their salvation; they will never be shaken.

**This is the generation of those who seek Him,
of those who seek Your face, O God.**

– from Psalms 15 and 24



TIME OF OFFERING

Sovereign Lord, we sing of Your lovingkindness and Your faithfulness. We acknowledge that all we are, and all we have, has come from Your hand of love. It's all about You, Jesus. In this time of worshipful giving of Your tithes and our offerings, we offer ourselves to You anew. You alone are God, and we surrender to Your ways.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Chorus:

It's all about You, Jesus.
And all this is for You,
For Your glory and Your fame.
It's not about me,
As if You should do things my way;
You alone are God
And I surrender to Your ways.

Verse:

Jesus, lover of my soul;
All consuming fire is in Your gaze.
Jesus, I want You to know
I will follow You all my days.
For no one else in history is like You,
And history itself belongs to You;
Alpha and Omega, You have loved me,
And I will share eternity with You.

CCLI Song No. 1545484; ©1995 Thankyou Music; Paul Oakley

THE WORD

Micah 6:1-8

Matthew 5:1-12

Genesis 28:10-17

John 1:47-50



THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

The Lord's Prayer

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)

Be Unto Your Name

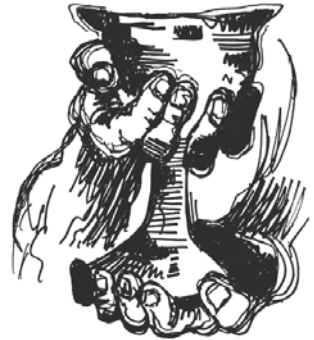
We are a moment, You are forever,
Lord of the ages, God before time.
We are a vapor, You are eternal,
Love everlasting, reigning on high.

Chorus

Holy, holy, Lord God, Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,
Jesus, Redeemer: mighty to save.
You are the love song we'll sing forever,
Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

CCLI Song No. 2177476; ©1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Gary Sadler and Lynn DeShazo



Communion Cup, Daniel Bonnell, Contemp.

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body



Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Let every creature rise and bring
Their grateful honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Hymn Tune *Duke Street*, attrib. to John Hatton, 1793

Benediction

And now, may our almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things both in heaven and on earth, mercifully grant that we would go forth from this place poor in spirit and in meekness as we live in the truth that His Kingdom is ours in the present, and that a new heaven and earth is our inheritance in the future, through His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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

A thought about worship...

"God's work in Christ is the focus of worship. . . . Worship itself is a representation of Christ. In this sense, worship is drama as it reenacts the Christ-event— . . . a dramatic representation that symbolically communicates the victory of Christ over all forces of evil. Consequently, when we worship, the conflict between good and evil that we experience in our everyday lives is confronted and resolved. We leave worship once again with the personal assurance that the battle is won—Satan has been, is now being, and will be defeated. Because we are confident in Christ's victory, we experience a great release from the burden of our sin and we become filled with joy and peace." (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds of Salvation* [Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992], 30-33.)

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.