



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

February 6, 2011 (Fifth Sunday of Epiphany)

Heaven and Nature Sing!

Salt of the Earth and the Kingdom of Heaven

GATHERING

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

there is no end to His greatness.

One generation shall praise Your works to another,

and shall declare Your power.

All Your works praise You, O Lord,

and Your faithful servants bless You.

They make known the glory of Your kingdom

and speak of Your power.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

Let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever.

– based on Psalm 145:3-4, 10-11, 21



He Has Distributed, He Has Given to the Poor, St. Albans Psalter, 12th Century



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

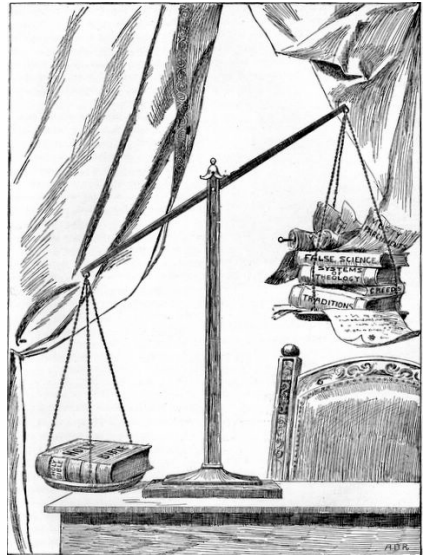
Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Public Domain: Joachim Neander; Transl. by Catherine Winkworth

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise





PROFESSION OF FAITH

Our faith rests not on human wisdom, but on the power of God.

This is the power of God: Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

We declare the wisdom of God, a mystery that was hidden and that God ordained for our glory from before time began.

None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written: “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him” –

These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God.

This is what we speak, not in words taught by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, for we have the mind of Christ.

– from 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Ancient Words

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus

Ancient words, ever true,
Changing me, changing you.
We have come with open hearts;
O let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice; O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.

CCLI Song No. 2986399; ©2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Lynn DeShazo; vs. 3
DeShazo/Alford



READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Lord, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go. Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our souls. Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus! Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine... Let us preach You without preaching, not by words but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You.

A prayer of John Henry Newman

Psalm 112:1-9 (chant)

Praise the Lord! Blessed are those who fear the Lord,*
who greatly delight in His commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;*
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their house,*
and their righteousness endures forever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;*
they are gracious and compassionate and righteous.

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,*
who conduct their affairs with justice.

For the righteous will never be shaken;*
they will be remembered forever.

They will not be afraid of evil tidings;*
their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.

Their hearts are steadfast, they will not be afraid;*
in the end they will look in triumph on their enemies.

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;*
their righteousness endures forever; they will hold their heads up
in honor.

Praise the Lord! Blessed are those who fear the Lord,*
who greatly delight in His commandments.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If you remove the yoke of oppression from among you, the pointing of the finger and malicious talk, and if you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom will become like the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in scorched places and give strength to your bones. And you will be like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. You will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations. And you will be called the Repairer of the Breach and the Restorer of Streets in which to dwell.

— Isaiah 58:9b-12

TIME OF OFFERING

Prayers of thanksgiving and dedication

King of Wisdom and Light

Holy, holy, holy,
God of power and might:
Heaven is filled with Your glory,
King of wisdom and light.

We worship You, We praise You,
God Most High;
We worship You, We praise You,
King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

CCLI Song No. 2514352; ©1998 International Liturgy Publications; Jim Cowan



THE WORD

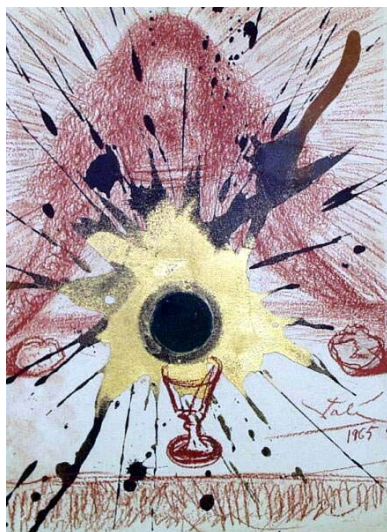
Matthew 5:13-20

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



Communion Cup, Salvador Dalí, 1965



They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
By our love, yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Verse 2

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Verse 3

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

CCLI song #26997; ©1966 F.E.L. Publications; Words and Music by Peter Scholtes

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.

Words and Music: Bernadette Farrell; © OCP Publications 1998



Benediction

And now, as You send us on our way, set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, especially those that would cause us to hide our light or compromise our saltiness. And give us the liberty of that abundant life which You have made known to us in Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

A thought about worship...

“Worship is characterized by a dramatic retelling. . . . [and] by dramatic reenactment. God not only speaks, he also acts. . . . The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is not an event that we memorialize. Its power, like that of the Exodus, reaches down through history and becomes a present reality to the people who celebrate it in faith.” (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God’s Mighty Deeds of Salvation* [Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992], 34, 36, 37-38.)

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.