



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

February 9, 2014 (Fifth Sunday of Epiphany)

## GATHERING

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.*

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

– Psalm 112:1-9





*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.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

Holy God, we praise Thy name;  
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!  
All on earth Thy scepter claim,  
All in Heaven above adore Thee;  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee;  
While in essence only One,  
Undivided God we claim Thee;  
And adoring bend the knee,  
While we own the mystery.

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TE DEUM



## 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 His 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

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession: Matthew 5:13-20

[Silence]

Lord, You have called us to become Your own. We were bought with a  
price, the price of Your life and blood. We love You, and we want to  
live for You.

[Silent confessions]

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 soul. Let them look up and see no longer us but  
only Jesus!**



[Silence]

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.**

– adapted from a prayer by John Henry Newman

*May the Mind of Christ, My Savior*

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,  
Live in me from day to day,  
By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly  
In my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph only through His power.

May the love of Jesus fill me,  
As the waters fill the sea;  
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

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#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear God's covenant promises to His people:

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

*I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.*

*I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

And they shall all know Me, for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sins no more.

– from Jeremiah 15:19 and 31:33-34

**Thanks be to God!**



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and devotion. . .

**And now we offer ourselves, all we are and all we have, as an expression of our worship and a reflection of Your love. Amen.**

### *Here I Am, Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

#### *Chorus:*

Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak My word to them; whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them; My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide, 'til their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give My life to them; whom shall I send?

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## THE WORD

Matthew 5:13-20

Isaiah 58:1-12

1 Corinthians 2:1-16





## 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 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.

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*Behold the Lamb*



Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us:  
And we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you:  
Eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,  
Paid the price to make us one.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin, shed for you:  
Drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in  
To receive the life of God.  
So, we share in this Bread of Life,  
And we drink of His sacrifice,  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond,  
And to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering,  
We proclaim: Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n  
Around the table of the King.

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SENDING FORTH



## The Life of the Body

### *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (reprise)*

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.

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### 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 from the Ancient Fathers –*

“Whoever wants others to see their good works so that God, who gave them their good works, may be glorified, their light truly shines before others. . . . These people don't do good to be seen, but so that God may be revealed through them. . . . The Apostle Paul said, "Please all men in all things, as I also please all men in all things." But he didn't stop there, as if pleasing others was his goal. Otherwise he would have said wrongly, "If I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ." Instead, he immediately added why he pleased others. "Not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved." So then, he didn't please others for his own profit or fear of not serving Christ, but at the same time he did please others for their salvation's sake so that he would be a faithful servant of Christ. For him it was enough for God to know His conscience and for others to have something to imitate in him.”

– Augustine

***Lectionary for next week:*** Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8;  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113  
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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