



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

February 23, 2014 (Seventh Sunday of Epiphany)

## GATHERING

Give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart;  
tell of all His wonderful works.

**There is none like You, O LORD,  
nor are there any works like Yours.**

Bow down toward His holy temple in worship, and give thanks  
to His name for His unfailing love and faithfulness.

**O LORD, how manifold are Your works!**

**In wisdom You have made them all.**

**The earth is full of Your possessions.**

The LORD will fulfill His purpose for us;  
His steadfast love endures forever.

**We will give thanks to You, O LORD, with our whole heart,  
and sing of Your ways; for great is the glory of the LORD!**

– from Psalms 86, 104, 138

### *Bow Down*

Bow down before the Lord,  
Worship Him, O worship Him.  
Bow down before our God,  
Enter in, O enter in.  
Consuming fire and sweet perfume,  
His awesome presence fills this room.  
This is holy ground,  
So come and bow down.

Holy, holy, holy Lord of hosts;  
Saints and angels give You glory  
Now and forevermore.

CCLI Song #1222013 ©1993 Integrity's Hosanna!  
Music. David Baroni, Tony Sutherland



True Wisdom True Messiah,  
David Johnson, 2011



## INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

### *Bow Down (bridge)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord of hosts;  
Saints and angels give You glory  
Now and forevermore.

### *You're Worthy of My Praise*

I will worship (I will worship)  
With all of my heart (with all of my heart);  
I will praise You (I will praise You)  
With all of my strength (all my strength);  
I will seek You (I will seek You)  
All of my days (all of my days);  
I will follow (I will follow)  
All of Your ways (all Your ways).

I will give You all my worship,  
I will give You all my praise.  
You alone I long to worship,  
You alone are worthy of my praise.

We will bow down (We will bow down),  
And hail You as King (and hail You as king);  
We will serve You (We will serve You),  
Give You everything (everything).  
We will lift up (We will lift up)  
Our eyes to Your throne (Our eyes to Your throne);  
We will trust You (We will trust You)  
Trust You alone (You alone).

We will give You all our worship, We will give You all our praise.  
You alone we long to worship, You alone are worthy of our praise.

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## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in the words of the Apostle Paul:

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 it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will set aside.”

*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

### *In Christ Alone*

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My comforter, my all in all,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.



In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Till on the cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world, by darkness slain;  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine,  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

CCLI song #3350395; © 2001 Thankyou Music;  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes,  
and I will observe it to the end.

**Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law  
and observe it with my whole heart.**

[Silence]

Direct me in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it.  
**Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to selfish gain.**

[Silence]



Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things;  
give me life in Your ways.

**Confirm Your promise to Your servant,  
so that You may be feared.**

[Silent confessions]

Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for Your judgments are good.

**Behold, I have longed for Your precepts; revive me in Your  
righteousness.**

– Psalm 119:33-40

### *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;  
Grant us peace.

CCLI Song #3204324 ©1989 Celebration. Betty Carr Pulkingham

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The proof of God's amazing love is this:  
while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ  
Jesus.*

**And we know that nothing shall ever separate us from the love of  
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

– Romans 5:8, 8:1, 39

Beloved, this is the promise of the God of steadfast love:

Blessed are those who fear the LORD,  
who find great delight in His commands.

*How blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.*

How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,  
who seek Him with all their heart.

– Psalm 112:1. 119:1-2



*In Christ Alone (verse 4)*

No guilt in life, no fear in death:  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
'Til He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

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TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise. . .

*Be Thou My Vision*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
Thou my best thought in the day and the night;  
Both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word.  
Thou ever with me and I with Thee, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance now and always.  
Thou and Thou only, the first in my heart,  
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright sun;  
Grant me its joys e'er the victory is won.  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

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## THE WORD

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

## 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* (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 us 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**

*Worthy is the Lamb*

Thank You for the cross, Lord;  
Thank You for the price You paid:  
Bearing all my sin and shame, in love You came,  
And gave amazing grace.  
Thank You for this love, Lord;  
Thank You for the nail-pierced hands.  
Washed me in Your cleansing flow, now all I know,  
Your forgiveness and embrace.

Worthy is the Lamb, seated on the throne.  
Crown You now with many crowns; You reign victorious.  
High and lifted up, Jesus Son of God,  
The treasure of heaven crucified:  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.



## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

#### *You're Worthy of My Praise (chorus)*

We will give You all our worship,  
We will give You all our praise.  
You alone we long to worship,  
You alone are worthy of our praise.

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#### Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, ever mindful of His bountiful grace, rejoicing that we are His, and walking before Him with our whole heart, mind, soul and strength.

Now to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations who love Him, forever and ever.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### *A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“If the one who loves deserves the most, how can I measure how much you owe me for my love to you? Instead, show respect for yourselves—the image of God committed to your care. Hold tightly to the faith you have received and were brought up in. You are being saved by it. . . . Realize that piety consists, not in speaking about God often, but in silence for the most part. For the tongue is a dangerous thing if it isn't governed by reason. . . . And, for yourselves, worship a little through words, but even more by your actions. . . . Show your love for Him by running from wickedness, pursuing righteousness, living and walking in the Spirit, drawing your knowledge from Him, and building on the foundation of faith. Don't use wood, hay, or stubble. They are weak materials and are easily burnt up when the fire tries our works or destroys them. But use gold, silver, and precious stones, which will remain standing.” – Gregory Nazianzen

**Lectionary for next week:** Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; Psalm 99;  
2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

[www.Epiclesis.org](http://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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