



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

February 24, 2013 (Second Sunday in Lent)

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the Lord, to declare His name,
and to cry out to Him who is our light and salvation.

**The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
the LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom then shall I be
afraid?**

One thing have we asked of the LORD; this one thing we seek:

**That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to
behold the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in His temple.**

How blessed are those You choose and bring near to dwell in Your
courts!

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Your holy
temple.**

By awesome deeds You answer us in righteousness, O God of our
salvation, the hope of all the earth.

**Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; in His
dwelling I will offer sacrifices with sounds of great gladness; I
will sing praises and make melody to the LORD.**

– from Psalms 27 and 65:4-5



Man of Sorrows, James B. Janknegt, 1990



Better Is One Day

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied,
Within Your presence;
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

Chorus

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the living God;
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen, Your gift of love to me;
I will draw near to You, I will abide in You.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Lord, open our lips

and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Refrain: *The Lord is my Light*

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation;
In God I trust, in God I trust.

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(spoken)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my
foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

*Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though
war rise up against me, in this I will be confident:*

Refrain

For in the day of trouble He will hide me in His shelter.

*He will conceal me in the secret place of His dwelling, and set me
high on a rock.*

Even now He lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.

*I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the
goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.*

Refrain



– Psalm 27:1-3, 5-6, 13



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to confession:

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me.
When You said, "Seek my face," my heart said to You, "Your face, O LORD, I shall seek."

Do not hide Your face from me, do not turn Your servant away in anger. You have been my help; do not abandon me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me in a level path because of my enemies.

– Psalm 27:7-9, 11

[Silent Confessions]

God of compassion, we cry out to You, for You have promised to hear and deliver. Look upon us in mercy, we pray. We humbly confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offences against You and against others. Forgive the wrongs we cannot undo; free us from a past we cannot change; and heal us, O Lord by Your grace and love. For Your sake and for Your glory, Amen.

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on me.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on me
A sinner, a sinner –
Have mercy, mercy, mercy.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is God's assurance of His love and deliverance:

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. He is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who have a contrite spirit.

– Psalm 34:16, 18



I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because He inclined His ear unto me, therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live. Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

Return to your rest, O my soul, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

He has delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears, our feet from stumbling. We will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

— from Psalm 116:1-9

TIME OF OFFERING

Testimonies and prayers of thanksgiving and devotion.

Jesus, I am Resting

Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art.
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul.
For by Thy transforming power, Thou hast made me whole.

Chorus:

Jesus, I am resting, resting
In the joy of what Thou art.
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart.

Oh, how great Thy loving kindness, vaster, broader than the sea.
Oh, how marvelous Thy goodness lavished all on me.
Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is Thine;
Know Thy certainty of promise and have made it mine.

Simply trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, I behold Thee as Thou art.
And Thy love so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart;
Satisfies its deepest longings, meets, supplies its ev'ry need,
Compasseth me 'round with blessings, this is love indeed.

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Psalm 27
Luke 13:31-35

CRY OUT TO THE LORD

During this Lenten journey, we cry out to the Lord, who is our light and our salvation, and pray that the Lord will hear our voice and see our deepest needs.

For sighing has become my daily food; my groans pour out like water. (Job 3:24)

Pouring into Lent

And during this Lenten journey, we will remember that the Lord tenderly gathers us to Himself, and with awesome deeds He answers us in righteousness.

Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. (Psalm 62:8)

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

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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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I Can Hear Your Voice

I'm in the river that flows from Your throne;
Water of life, Water of life.
It covers me and I breathe again;
Your love is breath to my soul.
I can hear Your voice
As You sing over me,
It's Your song of hope
Breathing life into me.
I can feel Your touch
As I come close to You,
And it heals my heart,
You restore and renew.

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Debbie Smith, Michael W. Smith, Whitney Smith



The Life of the Body

Jesus, I am Resting (reprise, verse 4)

Ever lift Thy face upon me as I work and wait for Thee;
Resting 'neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth's dark shadows flee.
Brightness of the Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face,
Keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with Thy grace.

CCLI Song # 2697066 ©1998 New Spring; Words by Jean Sophia Pigott; Music by David Hampton.

Benediction:

As you go forth into the world, do so remembering that our God, who hears when we cry out to Him, is a Refuge and Stronghold. Therefore you shall not be shaken.

We go, and we remember, with grateful hearts – to love and serve the Lord. Amen. Thanks be to God.

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“To spend a long time in prayer isn't, as some think, the same thing as praying ‘with much speaking.’ Multiplied words are one thing, but the sustained warmth of desire is another. It is written that the Lord continued all night in prayers and that His prayer was prolonged when He was in agony. Isn't this an example for us from our Intercessor who, along with the Father, eternally hears our prayers? . . . If we are paying attention to our souls, far be it from us to use “much speaking” in prayer, or to refrain from prolonged prayer. To talk a lot in prayer is to cheapen and overuse our words while asking for something necessary. But to prolong prayer is to have our hearts throb with continual pious emotions toward the One we pray to. In most cases, prayer consists more of groaning than of speaking, of tears rather than words. He sees our tears. Our groaning isn't hidden from Him. For He made everything by a word and doesn't need human words..”

– Augustine

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

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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