



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

March 10, 2013 (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates and sustains us.

**He has made us new creations in Christ;
the old has passed away; behold, all things become new!**

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

How blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD;

All creation declares the goodness of our God.

**For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with Him is great power to redeem.**

I waited patiently for the LORD;

And He inclined to me, and heard my cry.

**He also brought me up out of a pit of destruction, out of the miry
clay, and set my feet upon a rock, making my footsteps firm.**

He put a new song in my mouth: Praise to our God;

Many will see and fear, and will trust in the LORD.

Let all who seek the LORD rejoice in Him; let those who love His
salvation say continually, "The LORD be magnified!"

— based on Psalms 124:8, 130:7, 40:1-3, 16



Resurrection of Jesus Christ, Maria Lavie, Contemp.



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



PROFESSION OF FAITH

The word of the Lord:

We believe that Christ died for all,
so that we who live might no longer live for ourselves,
but for Him who for our sake died and was raised again.

*Therefore, since we are in Christ, we are new creations;
the old has passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself
through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, –

*That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself,
not counting their trespasses against them, –*

And He has entrusted to us the word of reconciliation.

*God made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf,
so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

– from 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Our Great Savior

Jesus, what a Friend for sinners,
Jesus, Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus

Jesus, Jesus what a Savior;
Jesus, Savior, what a Friend:
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus, what a Strength in weakness,
Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my Strength, my vict'ry wins.

Text: J. Wilbur Chapman; Music: Rowland H. Prichard; Tune: HYFRYDOL
Chorus text adapted for Lent by Ellen Koehler.



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to confession:

Blessed are those

whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are those

*whose sin the Lord does not count against them,
and in whose spirits is no deceit.*

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

My strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

**Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”
And You forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to You.

– From Psalm 32

[Silence]

Almighty God, heavenly Father, we have sinned against You and against others, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve You in newness of life to the glory of Your name. 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

Listen carefully, brothers and sisters of Epiclesis,
This is God's assurance of His love and deliverance:

The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and lovingkindness.

The LORD is good to all, His mercies are over all His creation.

**All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,
and all Your faithful people shall bless You.**

– Psalm 145:8-11

Our Great Savior

Jesus! I do now adore Him, more than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

Jesus, Jesus what a Savior; Jesus, Savior, what a Friend:
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and trust.

You Are Beautiful

Source of life to wood and stream, Sovereign Lord and gentle King,
More than we could ever dream: You are beautiful.
Father to the fatherless, Healer of our brokenness,
How You fill our emptiness: You are beautiful.

Chorus

Jesus, You are beautiful; there is none to compare with You.
Jesus, You are beautiful; and you show Your love to me,
And it gives me grace to see: You are everything my heart desires.
You are beautiful.

Son of God upon a cross, tasting death for all of us,
Reaching out when we were lost: You are beautiful.
Risen Lamb upon the throne, Roaring Lion coming soon,
Every eye will see it's true: You are beautiful.



THE WORD

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Psalm 32

CRY OUT TO THE LORD

During this Lenten journey, we cry out to the Lord, along with the whole of the created order, and pray that the Lord will hear our groaning and set us free from bondage.

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 God has made us new creations in His Son, Christus Victor. With Him there is steadfast love and great power to redeem and make new all things.

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 (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**

O The Passion

O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ;
King of Glory on the altar, perfect Lamb of sacrifice.
Who are we that He would love us? Who but He would give His life?
O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ.

O, the wisdom, O, the wonder of the power of the cross;
Love so rare no words could tell it, Life Himself has died for us.
Who are we that He would save us? Crucified to give us life;
O, the wisdom, O, the wonder of the power of the cross.

O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ;
Death defeated by His rising, darkness conquered by His light.
We will sing His praise forever, worthy is the Lamb of Life;
O, the passion, O, the wonder Of the fiery love of Christ.

Who are we that He would love us?
Who, but He would give His life?
O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ.

CCLI Song No. 2987154; ©2000 Integrity's Praise! Music | Integrity's Hosanna! Music
David Baroni and Gary Sadler



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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:

As you go forth into the world, do so remembering that our God, who hears when we cry out to Him, reconciles and reigns over all creation. He has made all things new. Therefore take heart, for 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 –

“We must not pursue foolish and vain things or yield to fear in the midst of trouble. We are, no doubt, flattered by deception and weighed down by troubles, but because ‘the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord,’ Christ's victory is ours. He fulfills what He said: ‘Fear not, for I have overcome the world.’ So then, whether we fight against the world's ambition, the lusts of the flesh, or against the darts of heresy, we must always arm ourselves with the Lord's cross.”

– Leo I

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

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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