



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

March 24, 2013 (Liturgy of the Palms)

## GATHERING

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Behold, your King is coming to you;

**He is just and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.** — Zechariah 9:9

*When Jesus had come near the Mount of Olives, on His way to Jerusalem, He sent ahead two of His disciples.*

He said, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'"

*So those who were sent departed, and found it as He had told them.*

As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it."

*Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.*

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

*As He was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles that they had seen, saying,*

**"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"**

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop."

*But Jesus answered them, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would cry out."*

— Luke 19:28-40





## PROCESSION INTO THE CHAPEL

### *We Will Glorify*

We will glorify the King of kings,  
We will glorify the Lamb;  
We will glorify the Lord of lords,  
Who is the great I Am.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty; we will bow before His throne.  
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth; He is Lord of all who live.  
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.

Hosanna to the King of kings, Hosanna to the Lamb;  
Hosanna to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I Am.

CCLI Song #19038. ©1982 New Spring. Twila Paris.

## INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

### *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels is praising Thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things created make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present.

To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the praise we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.

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Setting: © Ellen Koehler 2011.



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

The word of the Lord: Psalm 118:1, 19-29

*Refrain* (sung)

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;  
for His love endures forever.

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;  
for His steadfast love, His steadfast love,  
His steadfast endures forever.

(spoken)

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through  
them and give thanks to the LORD.

*This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.*

*Refrain*

I thank You that You have answered me and have become my  
salvation.

*The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief  
cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our  
eyes.*

This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, grant us success!*

*Refrain*

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD .

We bless you from the household of the LORD.

*The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal  
procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.*

**You are my God, and I will give thanks to You;**

**You are my God, I will extol You.**

*Refrain*

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## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Righteous God of all time, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We have joyfully praised Him with shouts of “Hosanna!” Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him, nor follow Him with our whole hearts.

[Silence]

**In your mercy, forgive us. Help us to lay at Your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting You to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken and to receive us as Your own.**

[Silent confessions]

Draw us near the foot of the cross, that, dying and rising with Him, we may walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.

**Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

### *Agnus Dei*

Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
Receive our prayer.

For You alone are Lord Most High, the Holy One, our heav’nly King.  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

You alone are Lord Most High, the Holy One, our heav’nly King.  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Almighty God and Father. Amen.

Setting: Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler.



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the word of the Lord from Psalm 118. This is God's promise of pardon and love:

Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

**Out of my distress I called upon the LORD; I sought the LORD and**

**He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

**The LORD is my strength and my song; He has become my  
salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and declare the deeds  
of the LORD.**

– from Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

**Thanks be to God!**

## TIME OF OFFERING

Testimonies of God's covenant faithfulness and prayers of thanksgiving

**And now, Lord, accept these offerings – all we have and all we are  
– as expressions of our worship and reflections of Your love.  
Lead us to Your heart.**

### *Lead me to the Cross*

Saviour I come, quiet my soul, remember:  
Redemption's hill where Your blood was spilled for our ransom.  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.

#### *Chorus:*

Lead me to the cross where Your Love poured out;  
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down;  
Rid me of myself, I belong to You; Oh lead me, lead me to the cross.

You were as I, tempted and tried, human;  
The Word became flesh, bore our sin and death, our redemption.  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.

#### *Bridge*

To Your heart, to Your heart,  
Lead me to Your heart, lead me to Your heart.

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## THE WORD

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Luke 19:28-40



Entry of Christ into Jerusalem.  
Wilhelm Morgner, 1917

## CRY OUT TO THE LORD

At the end of this Lenten journey, along with the crowds we cry out, “Blessed is He!” But we also remember that those same voices will soon cry out, “Crucify Him!”

**I am worn out from my groaning. All night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears.** (Psalm 6:6-7)

Our tears now pour out to overflowing, even spilling over, as the true meaning of sacrifice becomes more clear.

### *Pouring into Lent*

The true meaning of sacrifice is this: that when a willing victim, who has committed no treachery, is killed in a traitor’s stead, even death itself will turn backwards.

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

At the end of this Lenten journey, we will remember that the stone that was rejected has become the chief Cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

### *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.

©1982 Les Presses de Taizé (France)





## 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*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by Your Name.  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heav'n.  
Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us;  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours.  
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

### *Lamb of God*

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love, they crucified,  
They laughed and scorned Him as He died;  
The humble King they named a fraud,  
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

### *Chorus*

Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.  
Oh wash me in His precious blood, my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

I was so lost, I should have died,  
But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

### *Chorus*

CCLI Song #16787 ©1985 Straightway Music | Mountain Spring Music. Twila Paris.



## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

#### *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (verse 3)

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav’n, our King;  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!

Text: Jenette Threlfall. Tune: ELLACOMBE; from *Gesangbuch der Herzogl*, Württemberg 1784

Now brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to live out our baptisms, loving and serving the Lord.

**Just as we have carried these branches, and in praise declared  
Jesus Messiah and King, may we now follow Christ in the way  
of the cross.**

As we journey with Him in this week of remembrance and hope, let us take on His likeness, for the honor of His holy name, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

*A thought about worship...* “We should not look on Palm Sunday simply as a day to recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is that, but it is more. It is our own entry into the most solemn yet the most glorious experience of spirituality. For Jesus, Palm Sunday was his gateway to the culminating events of his earthly life. As we enter that gate with him, our spiritual lives are being ordered into the most sacred moments of the history of the world and of our own experience with the meaning of human existence.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality Through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 116-117.)

*Pouring into Lent* litany, first section: from C. S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (New York: Collier Books, 1950), p. 160.

**Lectionary for next week:** Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18; Luke 24:1-12

(Readings for each day of Holy Week can be found at The Revised Common Lectionary:  
<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>)

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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