

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy

July 28, 2013 (Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

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

We give You thanks, O LORD God, with our whole hearts. We will bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those He has redeemed from trouble and gathered to Himself.

The LORD will fulfill His plans and purpose for His people; His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, for His wonderful works to the children of men. Let us offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,

and tell of His deeds in songs of joy!

- from Psalms 107 and 138

Prophet Hosea, Duccio di Buoninsegna, 1308



Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven; To His feet your tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favor To our fathers in distress; Praise Him, still the same as ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness!

Fatherlike, He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows. In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels in the height, adore Him; You behold Him face to face. Saints triumphant, bow before Him; Gathered in from every race. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.
Glorious in His faithfulness.
Widely yet His mercy flows.
Praise with us the God of grace!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee, Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, And unwearied praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory, Evermore and evermore. Amen.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, firmly rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

- In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and we have been made complete in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority, and principality and power.
- In Him we also were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.
- We were buried with Him in baptism, in which we also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

When we were dead in our sins and in the uncircumcision of our flesh, God made us alive together with Christ.

He forgave us all our transgressions, having cancelled out the certificate of debt against us with its legal demands; He set this aside, having nailed it to the cross.

When He disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

We hold fast to the Head, Christ Jesus the Lord, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

- from Colossians 2:6-19



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

Listen to what the LORD our God says: He promises peace to His people, His faithful servants, to those who turn their hearts to Him.

- Psalm 85:7-8.

[Silent confessions]

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me. 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

Surely God's salvation is near to those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell among us.

Lovingkindness and faithfulness meet;

righteousness and peace kiss each other.

The LORD will indeed give what is good; righteousness will go before Him and prepare the way for His steps.

Thanks be to God!

- from Psalm 85:9-13



TIME OF OFFERING

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks . . .

- . . . for Your abiding faithfulness. . .
- ... for Your constant care ...
- . . . for Your sure provisions . . .

With grateful hearts, in joyful worship, we bring Your tithes and our offerings.

Fountain of Grace

You have been faithful when I have been faithless, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace. Forever giving when I have been selfish, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace.

Still the beginning of all that is holy, Unsearchable Ancient of Days. I kneel before You, and offer this vessel, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace.

You were the constant when I chose to wander, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace. You were forgiveness when I cried for mercy, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace.

You are the author of all that is finished, I owe You my life and my praise. I kneel before You, and offer this vessel, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace.

Pour out the water of life on this vessel, Oh, unending Fountain of Grace.

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THE WORD

Hosea 1:2-10

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.



<u>Hosea and Gomer</u>, Martin Fren Contemp.

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



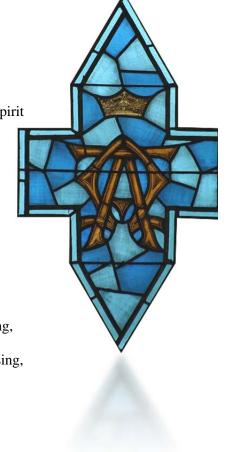
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down! Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; All Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, Thou art all compassion; Pure, unbounded love Thou art. Visit us with Thy salvation; Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe, Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all Thy life receive. Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above, Pray and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love and praise.



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SENDING FORTH The Life of the Body

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (reprise)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King. Glorious in His faithfulness. Widely yet His mercy flows. Praise with us the God of grace! Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

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Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, walking before Him with a whole heart, ever mindful that we are restored in Him because of the steadfast love of our God. Now to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations who fear Him, forever and ever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lectionary for next week: Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43;

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12;

Colossians 3:1-11: Luke 12:13-21

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers -

"By love have all the elect of God been made perfect; without love nothing is well-pleasing to God.' Who can describe the blessed bond of the love of God? What man is able to tell the excellence of its beauty as it ought to be told? The height to which love exalts is unspeakable. Love unites us to God. Love covers a multitude of sins. Love bears all things – is long-suffering in all things. ... By love have all the elect of God been made perfect; without love nothing is wellpleasing to God. In love has the Lord taken us to Himself. On account of His love for us, Jesus Christ our Lord gave His blood for us by the will of God, His flesh for our flesh, and His soul for our souls. You see, beloved, how great and wonderful a thing love is and that it is impossible to adequately declare its perfection. Who is fit to be found in it except those whom God has graciously privileged?"

— Clement of Rome

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. ©2013 E.K