



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

August 12, 2012 (Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

I will bless the LORD at all times!

**His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

**My soul shall make its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad!**

O taste and see that the Lord is good;

**How blessed are those who trust in Him!**

**For they shall be like a tree planted by the waters,  
that extends its roots by the stream.**

**They will never cease being fruitful.**

Blessed be the LORD from everlasting to everlasting.

And let all the people say:

**Amen. Praise the LORD!**

— from Psalm 34, 106:48; Jeremiah 17:7-8





*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.

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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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

*All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 5)*

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness;  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Public Domain; Text: St. Francis of Assisi, transl. William H. Draper  
Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader:

This is the life that measures up to the stature of the fullness of Christ:

With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love;

*Making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace –*

For there is one body and one Spirit,

*Just as we were called in one hope of our calling;*

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

*One God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all –*

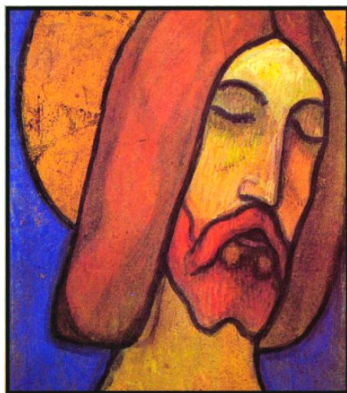
**We are to come to the unity of the faith**

**and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity,**

**to the measure of the stature of fullness of Christ.**

**Speaking the truth in love, we grow up in all things into Him who is the head, even Christ. From Him the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint and ligament supplies, as each part is working properly, grows and builds itself up in love.**

– from Ephesians 4:1-16



*Bless the Lord*

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Be imitators of God, as beloved children,  
and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us,  
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*Put away falsehood, and let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors,  
for we are members one of another.*

Be angry, but do not sin. Do not let the sun go down on your anger,  
and do not make room for the devil.

*Thieves must give up stealing. Rather, they must labor and work  
honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share  
with the needy.*

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for  
building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to  
those who hear.

*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were marked  
with a seal for the day of redemption.*

Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and  
slander, together with all malice.

*And be kind to one another. Tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as  
God in Christ has forgiven you.*

— Ephesians 4:25-5:2

[Silence]

**Almighty God, You have shown us the way of life through Your  
Son, Jesus Christ. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of  
Him and our reluctance to follow Him. O God, forgive us, cleanse  
us, and make us daily more like Christ, that we may increase in  
His stature, walking in Your ways to the glory of Your name.  
Amen.**

[Silence]

*Bless the Lord*

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved children of God, hear His promise of pardon:

We all, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

— 2 Corinthians 3:18

## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of God's work in our lives

**And now we offer ourselves, all we are and all we have, as an expression of our worship and a reflection of Your love. Amen.**

### *My Lips will Praise You*

My lips will praise You,  
For You are holy.  
My voice will ever rise before Your throne.  
My heart will love You,  
For You are lovely,  
And You have called me  
To become Your own.

I am Your own,  
And I will worship You alone.  
I am Your own,  
I am Your child.  
I am Your own,  
And I will worship at Your throne.  
I am Your own,  
And I will love You.

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## THE WORD

2 Peter 1:3-8



## 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



### *All To Us*

Precious cornerstone, sure foundation,  
You are faithful to the end.  
We are waiting on You, Jesus.  
We believe; You're all to us.  
(repeat)

#### *Chorus*

Let the glory of Your name be the passion of the Church.  
Let the righteousness of God be a holy flame that burns.  
Let the saving love of Christ be the measure of our lives.  
We believe; You're all to us.

#### *Verse 2*

Only Son of God, sent from heaven;  
Hope and mercy at the cross.  
You are ev'rything, You're the promise;  
Jesus, You are all to us.

#### *Verse 3*

When this passing world is over,  
We will see You face to face,  
And forever we will worship;  
Jesus, You are all to us.  
Jesus, You are all to us.

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SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body



*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (reprise, verse 4)

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:**

Now, beloved, we go forth in joy and with thankful hearts,  
into the world to love and serve the Lord –  
remembering that God Himself tabernacles in us, and He is  
increasing in us the character of Christ, so that the measure of our  
lives might be the fullness of the stature of Christ the Lord.

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

***A thought about worship...***

“Christ is the embodied story of God, the one in whom God became human and showed us what humanity was intended to be. The faithful life is the life that seeks to live the Jesus way. ... The spiritual life [is] the living out of the life of Christlikeness by the power of the Spirit.”

Robert E. Webber, *The Divine Embrace: Recovering the Passionate Spiritual Life* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006, pp. 205, 217.)

***Lectionary for next week:*** 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Psalm 111 Proverbs 9:1-6;  
Psalm 34:9-14; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

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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