



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 4, 2011 (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

His praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker;

let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with dancing,

making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre.

For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;

He adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy and be glad.

– from Psalm 149



Jesus Christ-The True Light, Mark Lawrence, Contemp



Made Me Glad

I will bless the Lord forever;
I will trust Him at all times.
He has delivered me from all fear;
He has set my feet upon a rock.
And I will not be moved,
And I'll say of the Lord –

Chorus:

You are my Shield, my Strength,
My portion, Deliverer;
My Shelter, Strong Tower,
My very present Help in time of need.

Verse 2:

Whom have I in heaven but You?
There's none I desire beside You.
And You have made me glad,
I'll say of the Lord –

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever,
Forever. Amen, amen, amen.

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Alleluia. The lovingkindness of the Lord is everlasting.
Come, let us adore Him. **Alleluia.**



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Ubi Caritas

Ubi caritas et amor, Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

English adaptation:

Where there is love and charity, Where there is love, there is God.

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God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ – by grace we have been saved –, And raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, So that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. – Ephesians 2:4-6

Ubi Caritas

So owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for those who love their neighbors have fulfilled the law. For all of the commandments are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law. – Romans 13:8-10

Ubi Caritas

And this do, knowing that it is already the time for us to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. The night is almost gone; the day is near. Let us therefore lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. – Romans 13:11-12

Ubi Caritas



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

*Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law
and observe it with my whole heart.*

Direct me in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it.

Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to selfish gain.

Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things;
give me life in Your ways.

Confirm Your promise to Your servant, so that You may be feared.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for Your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for Your precepts; revive me in Your righteousness

– Psalm 119:33-40

[Silent confessions]

Almighty God, our Redeemer, You have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and You have set us on paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Yet in our weakness we too often have failed to be Your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow Your commands and proclaim Your love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the Lord:

Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

Walk as children of light, learning what is pleasing to the Lord.

If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.

(Ephesians 5:8,10; 1 John 1:7)



TIME OF OFFERING

Testimonies and thanksgiving for God's providence

Sovereign Lord, You created all that is and with love formed us in Your image. All we are, and all we have, has come from Your hand. In this time of worshipful giving of Your tithes and our offerings, we offer ourselves to You anew. May we be reflections of Your love, for You are love.

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin.

Chorus

O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall for evermore endure
The saints' and angels' song.

Verse 2

When years of time shall pass away,
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men, who here refuse to pray,
On rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race the saints' and angels' song.

Verse 3

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.



THE WORD

Romans 13:8-14

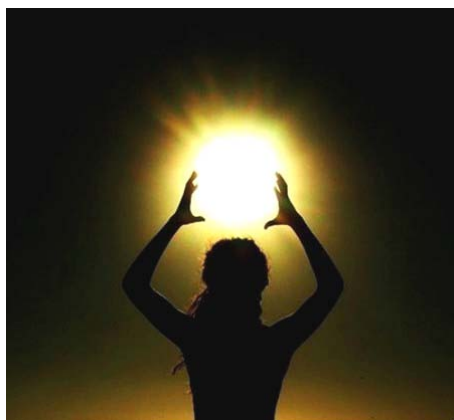
THE TABLE

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 Deep Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
Is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward
To my glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus –
Spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth,
Changeth never, nevermore.
How He watches o'er His loved ones,
Died to call them all His own.
How for them He intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Love of every love the best;
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee.
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee.

Traditional. Text: Samuel Trevor Francis. Tune: Thomas J. Williams (Hymn tune: EBENEZER);
Setting Ellen Koehler ©2008

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
By our love, yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love ...

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love ...

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Benediction

Now may the grace of God, which renews us daily,
And the love of God, which enables us to love,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us into one Body,
Continually be with us as we go forth into the world – clothed and
empowered with the armor of light – to love and serve the Lord.

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

A thought about worship... – “God wants us to internalize him; to take him into ourself, into our mind, our soul, our spirit, our will. . . . For this reason, it is important for us to take time before worship begins to be quiet, to meditate, and to prepare to meet our God.” (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds of Salvation* Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992, 101).

Lectionary for next week: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:(1-7),8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
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.