



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

August 31, 2014 (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

Leader: We are gathered to worship the Lord, to exalt His name,  
and to proclaim His story!

O give thanks to the LORD, call on His name;  
Make known His deeds among the peoples.

*Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;  
tell of all His wondrous works.*

Glory in His holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

*Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually.*

Remember the marvelous works He has done,

His wonders, and the judgments He has uttered.

*For He remembers His covenant forever,*

*the word which He commanded to a thousand generations.*

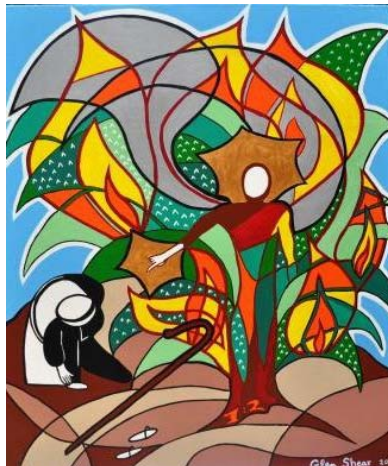
**O LORD, You are my God; I will exalt You;**

**I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.**

**In the presence of the faithful we proclaim His name, for it is good.**

**His faithfulness continues through all generations!**

– based on Psalm 105:1-5, 8 and Isaiah 25:1



Moses at the Burning Bush  
Glen Shear, 2010



*Immortal Invisible (Your Great Name We Praise)*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes.  
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 2*

Unresting, unceasing, and silent as light;  
Not wanting or wasting, You rule us in might.  
Your justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

*Chorus*

Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

*Verse 3*

All life comes from You, Lord, to both great and small;  
In all life You live, Lord, the true Life of all.  
We blossom and flourish but quickly grow frail;  
We wither and perish, but You never fail.

*Verse 4*

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light;  
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we will render, oh Father of Grace;  
Till one day in splendor we see face to face.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise



*The God of Abraham Praise*

The God of Abraham praise,  
Who reigns enthroned above,  
The Ancient of eternal days,  
And God of love.  
Jehovah, great I AM,  
By earth and heav'n confessed:  
We bow and bless the sacred name,  
Forever blest.

The God who reigns on high  
The great archangels sing,  
And "Holy, holy, holy," cry,  
"Almighty King!"  
Who was and is the same  
And evermore shall be:  
Eternal Father, great I AM,  
We worship Thee.

The whole triumphant host  
Give thanks to God on high;  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
They ever cry.  
Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!  
With heav'n our songs we raise:  
All might and majesty are Thine  
And endless praise.

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013. Text: Thomas Olivers, 1765;  
based on the Hebrew *Yigdal* of Daniel ben Judah, c. 1400.  
Tune: Traditional Hebrew melody.



Father of the Heavenly Lights,  
Sarah Horne, Contemp.



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

**Through Him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried.*

**The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.**

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.*

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.**

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

Nicene Creed

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Hear the words of Jesus to His disciples:

If any want to be My disciples, let them deny themselves and take up  
their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will  
lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will find it.

For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit  
their soul? Or what can they give in exchange for their soul?

– Matthew 16:24-26

[Silence]



Most holy and merciful God,

**We confess to You and to one another that we have sinned, in thought, word and deed. We have offended Your holiness. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. We have followed the devices of our own hearts, and have spurned the promptings of Your Spirit.**

**Forgive us, we pray. In Your grace, raise us from sin that we may be Your holy people, walking faithfully in Your ways and delighting in Your will, 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.

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

This is the promise of the Lord:

If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve Me and stand before Me.

–Jeremiah 15:19

*The God of Abraham Praise (verse 2)*

He by Himself hath sworn; we on His oath depend.  
We shall, on eagles' wings upborne, to heav'n ascend.  
We shall behold His face; we shall His pow'r adore,  
And sing the wonders of His grace forevermore.



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of seeing God's Kingdom at work.

Blessed are You, O Lord, our God.

All things were created through You and for You.

**With love You formed us in Your image, and blessed us with the gifts of Your presence and Your goodness.**

**Fashion our hearts, Lord. Write Your name in the clay.**

**Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring as worship to You. Take all we are, and all we have. We are Yours forever.**

### *Paint Your Picture*

Pick me up like a paintbrush, God,  
Dip it in the colors of my life.  
Paint Your picture, Father,  
Fashion a heart that is wholly Yours.

Take Your fingers, God, Master Potter, come mold the clay.  
Tell Your story, as You mold me,  
Fashion a heart that is wholly Yours.

And write Your name, write Your name, in the clay.  
And sign Your name, sign Your name on the picture.

Take all I am, take all I have, for I am Yours forever, Forever

So come write Your name, write Your name, in the clay.  
Come sign Your name, sign Your name, on the picture.

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## THE WORD

Exodus 3:1-15

## 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 (sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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)

*What Grace is Mine*

What grace is mine that He who dwells in endless light  
Called through the night to find my distant soul,  
And from His scars poured mercy that would plead for me  
That I might live, and in His name be known?

*Chorus*

So, I will go wherever He is calling me.  
I lose my life to find my life in Him.  
I give my all to gain the hope that never dies.  
I bow my heart, take up my cross, and follow Him.

What grace is mine to know His breath alive in me?  
Beneath His wings, my wakened soul may soar.  
All fear can flee, for death's dark night is overcome;  
My Savior lives and reigns forevermore.

CCLI Song #5418895 ©2008 Thankyou Music. Words: Kristyn Getty. Hymn tune:  
LONDONDERRY AIR.

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body



*Immortal Invisible (reprise; verse 4)*

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light;  
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we will render, oh Father of Grace;  
Till one day in splendor we see face to face.

Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;  
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

**Benediction**

Now, beloved, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.  
May He give us eyes to see His kingdom break forth in our midst, that  
we may turn aside and, with joy, follow Him in the path He has set  
before us.

**To the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and  
authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages,  
now and forevermore!**

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

*A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“Our nature can’t contemplate heavenly things by our own strength. We must learn from God what we should think of Him. We have no source of knowledge but God Himself. You might be as well trained in secular philosophy as possible, and you may have lived a life of righteousness. But, although all of this will add to your mental satisfaction, it won’t help you know God. Moses was adopted as the queen’s son. He was instructed in all the Egyptians’ wisdom. Moreover, out of loyalty to his race, Moses avenged the Hebrew by slaying the Egyptian who wronged him. Yet he didn’t know the God who blessed his fathers. For when he left Egypt afraid of his deed being discovered, he lived as a shepherd in the land of Midian. There he saw a fire in the bush, but the bush wasn’t consumed. Then he heard the voice of God, asked His name, and learned His nature. Despite all this he couldn’t have known anything except through God Himself. We, in the same way, must confine whatever we say about God to the words He has spoken to us about Himself.”  
– Hilary of Poitiers

**Lectionary for next week:** Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Ezekiel 33:7-11;  
Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

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.

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