



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

August 11, 2013 (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous!

For praise is becoming to the upright.

Sing to Him a new song;

**Shout for joy, for the word of the LORD is right
and all His work is done in faithfulness.**

The earth is full of His lovingkindness.

Blessed are those whose God is the LORD,
the people He has chosen for His own inheritance.

The LORD looks from heaven;

He sees all the children of men.

Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,

On those who hope in His lovingkindness.

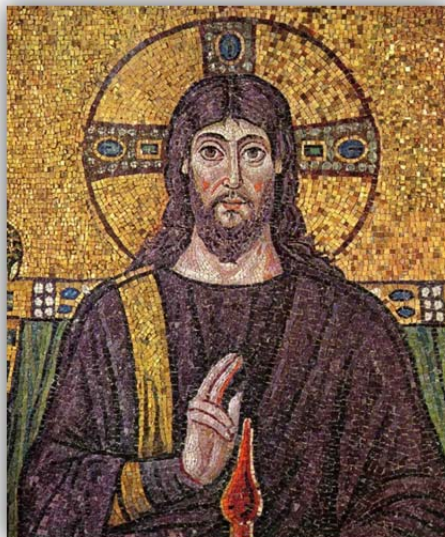
We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.

In Him our hearts rejoice, because we trust in His holy name.

Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,

Even as we hope in You.

– from Psalm 33



Christ Pantocrator



Rejoice the Lord is King

Rejoice the Lord is King; Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice! The Lord is King!

Jesus, the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love.
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice! The Lord is King!

His kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n.
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice! The Lord is King!

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Lord, open our lips
and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.

Gloria Patri

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2009

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.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Because We Believe

Readings from Hebrews 11:1-16

Reading: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. By it, the ancients gained approval from God. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made of things which are visible.



Verse 1:

We believe in God the Father; we believe in Christ the Son;
We believe in the Holy Spirit; we are the church and we stand as one.

Chorus:

Holy, holy, holy is our God.
Worthy, worthy, worthy is our King.
All glory and honor are His to receive.
To Jesus we sing, because we believe.

Reading: By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. For he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Verse 2:

We believe in the Holy Bible; we believe in the virgin birth;
We believe in the resurrection;
That Christ one day will return to earth.

Chorus

Reading: Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob all died in faith, without receiving the promises. But having seen them, they believed and welcomed them from a distance. ... They were longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Verse 3:

We believe in the blood of Jesus; we believe in eternal life;
We believe in the blood that frees us to become the Bride of Christ.

Chorus

Reading: Without faith it is impossible to please God, for those who come to Him must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Chorus

CCLI Song #2133379 ©1996 Mother's Heart Music; Jamie Harvill and Nancy Gordon



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The Lord looks down from heaven; He sees all the children of men.
*From His dwelling place He looks on all the inhabitants of the earth;
He who fashions the hearts of them all, who considers all they do.*

– Psalm 33:13-15

Almighty and loving God, all hearts are open to You.
We confess with sadness that we do not always love You with a whole heart. We too often let fears overwhelm us. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns, and have not been mindful of the needs of those around us.

[Silent confessions]

Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Make us ready, we pray, always to follow Your will and direction in all things, that we may walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on me, a sinner.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

©2002 Petaluma Music; Setting by David Baker

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If you kept a record of sins, O LORD, who could stand?
*But with You there is forgiveness;
that You may be feared.*

Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is lovingkindness,
and with Him is abundant redemption.

He redeems His people from all their sins.

How blessed are all those who wait for Him!

– Psalm 130:3-4, 7-8; Isaiah 30:18



TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of praise and thanksgiving

Sovereign Lord, in worship, with joy and thanksgiving, we offer to You what You have first given to us –

our moments and days . . .

our hands and feet . . .

our voices, our lips, our minds . . .

our silver and gold . . .

our wills, our hearts, our love, our whole selves . . .

May we be always, only, all for Thee.

Take My Life

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Verse 2

Take my voice and let me sing always only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use ev'ry power as Your choose.

Chorus:

Here am I, all of me;
Take my life, it's all for Thee.

Verse 3

Take my will and make it Thine, it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, it shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Your feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

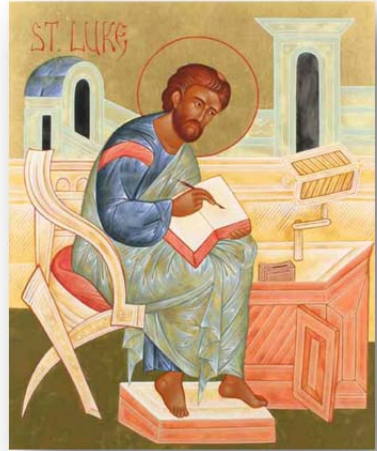
Chorus:

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THE WORD

Luke 12:32-40



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.**





Open My Eyes That I May See

Open my eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me,
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine.

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine.

Open my mouth and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me,
Spirit divine.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Rejoice the Lord is King (verse 4)

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!
The Lord is King! The Lord is King! The Lord is King!

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Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord – ever watchful as we follow Him, prepared and dressed for action, and ever mindful that our treasure is in heavenly things. 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: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Jesus teaches us not only that riches are to be despised, but that also they are full of danger. They are the root of seducing evils and deceive the blind human mind by hidden deception. God rebukes rich fools who think only of their earthly wealth and boast in the abundance of their overflowing harvests. He says, “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?” The fool was rejoicing in his supplies when he would die that very night; one whose life was already failing was thinking about the abundance of his food. However, the Lord tells us that those who sell all their possessions and distribute them for the poor become perfect and complete. In so doing, they lay up treasures for themselves in heaven. He says that those who follow Him. . . and aren’t entangled by worldly possessions . . . accompany their possessions which they send to God. For such a reward, let us all prepare ourselves, learn to pray, and discern from our prayers what we should become, . . . for He promises that all things will be added to those who seek God’s kingdom and righteousness.”

– Cyprian

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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