



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

September 21, 2014 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Caris Fickenscher,  
piano

## GATHERING

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

**Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

**We exalt You, our God and King!**

**Every day I will bless You;**

**I will praise Your name forever and ever.**

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

His greatness is unsearchable.

*All Your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,  
and all Your saints shall bless You!*

The LORD is good to all,

and His mercies are over all His works.

*On the glorious splendor of Your majesty,  
and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.*

One generation shall praise Your works to another; they shall speak  
of the glory of Your kingdom and talk of Your power –

*To make known to the children of men Your mighty acts  
and the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.*

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

— from Psalm 145:1-13





*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!

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!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

New tune setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler.  
Words: Henry F. Lyte, based on Psalm 103.  
Original hymn tune: LAUDA ANIMA, .John Goss, 1869.





## INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

### *Jehovah Jireh*

Jehovah Jireh! My Provider,  
His grace is sufficient for me, for me, for me!  
Jehovah Jireh! My Provider,  
His grace is sufficient for me!

My God shall supply all my need,  
According to His riches in glory;  
He shall give His angels charge over me –  
Jehovah Jireh cares for me, for me, for me!  
Jehovah Jireh! My Provider,  
His grace is sufficient for me!

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### *I Call You Faithful*

I call You Jireh; Lord, You're my Provider;  
You are Provider to me.  
I call You Jireh; Lord, You're my Provider;  
Provider You are, and Provider You'll be.

I call You faithful, Lord, You are faithful;  
You are so faithful to me.  
I call you faithful, Lord, You are faithful;  
Faithful You are, and faithful You'll be.

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## PROFESSION OF FAITH



Leader: How blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD, who made heaven and earth,  
who remains faithful forever.

*Great is our God, and abundant in power.*

His understanding has no limit.

*The LORD builds up His people:*

He gathers in the outcasts and wanderers;

*He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds;*

He feeds the hungry and frees the prisoners.

*He lifts up the humble and the afflicted.*

All creation declares the goodness of our God:

*He covers the heavens with clouds, and supplies the earth with rain;*

He provides for His creatures, great and small.

The LORD brought out His people, Israel, with silver and gold, and there was none among His tribes who stumbled. Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it. He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night. They asked, and He brought quail, and gave them bread from heaven in abundance. ... For He remembered His holy promise, and Abraham, His servant. So He brought His people out with joy, His chosen ones with singing.

**Great is our God, and abundant in power.**

**His understanding has no limit!**

**The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him,  
in those who wait and hope in His lovingkindness.**

— from Psalms 146:5-6, 147:1-11, 105:37-43

#### PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, our God, there is no God like You in heaven or on earth,  
keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to Your servants who  
walk before You with all their heart.

— 2 Chronicles 6:14

[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.**

*Agnus Dei*

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy. (repeat)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace, grant us your peace.

Setting: Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The word of the LORD, whose judgments are in all the earth, who remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations.

– Psalm 105:7-8

The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and great in steadfast love.

*The LORD is good to all,  
and His tender mercies are over all His works.*

He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;  
He also will hear their cry and save them.

*The Lord preserves those who love Him.*

**All Your works shall give thanks to You, O Lord,  
and Your saints shall bless You.**

– Psalm 145: 8-10, 19-20a



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of God's faithfulness

### *Breathing the Breath*

We have nothing to give that didn't first come from Your hands.  
We have nothing to offer You which You did not provide.  
Every good perfect gift comes from Your kind and gracious heart;  
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

### *Chorus*

Lord, we're breathing the breath that You gave us to breathe  
To worship You, to worship You.  
And we're singing these songs with the very same breath  
To worship You, to worship You.

### *Verse 2*

Who has given to You that it should be paid back to him?  
Who has given to You as if You needed anything?  
From You and to You and through You come all things, O Lord;  
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

### *Bridge:*

We are breathing the breath  
That You gave us to breathe (repeat)

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## THE WORD

Exodus 16:2-15

## 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.**



### *Our Father in Heaven* (sung)

Our Father in heaven, Your name is holy,  
Your name is holy, our Father.  
Your kingdom come, and Your will be done  
Here on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us, we pray, our bread for today,  
Our debts forgive and in turn we will live,  
Forgiving of what others owe.  
Keep us from trials; save us from our ancient foe!

As we sing the kingdom, we sing the power,  
We sing the glory be Yours – Forever. Amen. Amen. Amen!

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### *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

#### *Chorus:*

Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

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

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!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

*Benediction:* People of God, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord remembering this:

With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, our Father God has seen the blood of His beloved Son in the covenant meal of remembrance we have shared. And in the power of the Holy Spirit, we leave the enslavements of our ancient enemy behind us and head towards the Land of Promise. Now, let us depart from this place, walking out our baptisms in an uncertain wilderness, in the power and certainty that His mighty hand and outstretched arm lead and provide for us still.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### *A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“The soul is humbled when it doesn’t follow wickedness, but feeds on righteousness. For righteousness and wickedness are the soul’s food. According to what it wants, the soul can prefer and eat either of these meats. If it is bent toward righteousness, it will be nourished by righteousness, morality, self-control, meekness, and courage. This was the case with our Lord. He said, ‘My meat is to do the will of My Father which is in heaven.’ But if the soul isn’t like Him and prefers wickedness, it is nourished only by sin. . . . For the devil is food for sinners. In the same way, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the heavenly bread, is food for saints. For He said, ‘Except ye eat My flesh, and drink My blood.’ The devil is food for the impure and for those who do the deeds of darkness and not of light. Therefore, in order to turn them from wickedness, Christ commands these people to be nourished by the food of righteousness. This food is humility of mind, meekness that endures humiliations, and acknowledgment of God.” – Athanasius

**Lectionary for next week:** Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32;  
Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-9; Matthew 21:23-32

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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