



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

October 2, 2011 (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims  
His handiwork.

*Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.*

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

*Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,*

*and their words to the end of the world.*

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;

*The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

*The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;

*The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.*

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;*

*in keeping them there is great reward.*

**Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.**

**Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations;**

**You established the earth, and it stands.**

**I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes forever,  
even to the end.**

– from Psalm 19:1-11 and 119:89, 112



Psalm 19, Moshe Tzvi HaLevi Berger  
Contemp



## *I Will Sing*

I will sing (echo)  
Of Your great love (echo),  
And I will tell (echo)  
Of all You've done (echo).  
With Your praise on my lips  
I'll declare Your faithfulness;  
I will sing (echo)  
Of Your great love.

### *Verse 1*

I seek You in the morning,  
Your tenderness and mercy fill my cup.  
Your grace is overflowing,  
You satisfy my needs and fill me up.  
So I will sing –

### *Verse 2*

The heavens praise Your wonders,  
And I will lift my voice and join the song.  
Your glory shines around me,  
Your faithfulness surrounds me all day long.  
So I will sing –

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## INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

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

**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. Amen.  
Alleluia. The Lord has shown forth His glory.**

Come, let us adore Him. **Alleluia!**



### *How Great Thou Art*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Chorus:* Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Words: Stuart Hine. Swedish folk melody. ©1949, 1953 S. K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music.

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

Whatever things were gain to me

*I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.*

More than that, I consider all things as loss

*in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,*

**That I may gain Christ and be found in Him,**

Not having any righteousness of my own, but the righteousness  
that comes from God through faith in Christ;

*And that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection,*

**Being conformed to His death**

**so that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

*I press on toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in  
Christ Jesus.*

**For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait  
for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of  
our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the  
exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to  
Himself.**

– from Philippians 3:7-14, 20-21



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession:

### *Psalm 19*

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart  
Be pleasing to You, pleasing to You. (repeat)

You're my Rock and my Redeemer; You're the reason that I sing;  
I desire to be a blessing in Your eyes.  
Ev'ry hour, ev'ry moment, Lord, I want to be Your servant;  
I desire to be a blessing in Your eyes, in Your eyes.

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart  
Be pleasing to You, pleasing to You.  
May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart  
Be pleasing to You, my God.

CCLI Song No. 1773823; ©1995 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing; Terry Butler

Reader:

But who can understand their own errors?

Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

Keep Your servant from willful sins;

Do not let them control me.

Then I will be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be pleasing to You, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

– Psalm 19:12-14

[Silent confessions]

### *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

Hear the good news!  
Who is in a position to condemn?  
*Only Christ –  
And Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,  
Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.  
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.*  
Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

– from Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17

#### TIME OF OFFERING

Prayers of thanksgiving and dedication

All good things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image. When our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior.

**All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you. And so, in gratitude for all your gifts, we offer you ourselves, and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us. By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**



### *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.

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### THE WORD

Philippians 3:4b-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 (sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by 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)

### *Knowing You*

#### *Verse 1*

All I once held dear, built my life upon,  
All this world reveres, and wars to own,  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;  
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

#### *Chorus*

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,  
There is no greater thing.  
You're my all, You're the best,  
You're my joy, my righteousness,  
And I love you, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know You more,  
To be found by You, and known as Yours,  
To possess by faith what I could not earn;  
All surpassing gift of righteousness.

Oh to know the pow'r of Your risen life,  
And to know You in Your sufferings,  
To become like You in Your death, my Lord;  
So with You to live, and never die.

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## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

Beloved, Paul's word to the Philippians then is a word for us now:

Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,  
let us press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God  
in Christ Jesus –

as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord!

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

– from Philippians 3:13-14

### *How Great Thou Art*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, “My God, how great Thou art!”

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Hine/Swedish folk melody. ©1949, 1953

*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. [Such devotion] means you can count on me to be Jesus to you. And when I fail, which we all do, you can count on me to repent and return to my intent to be faithful to living in the pattern of death and resurrection.”

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

**Lectionary for next week:** Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23;  
Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

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.

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