



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 8, 2013 (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We are gathered to praise and worship the LORD our God.

*Fill our worship with Your grace, O LORD our God,
that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to You,
our Rock and our Redeemer.*

– based on Psalm 19:14

O LORD, You have searched me
and You know me.

**You know when I sit and when I rise;
You perceive my thoughts from afar.**

*You discern my going out and my lying down;
You are familiar with all my ways.*

Before a word is on my tongue
You know it completely, O LORD.

**You hem me in – behind and before;
You have laid Your hand upon me.**

*Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.*

For You created my inmost being;
You knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made:
Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**

*My frame was not hidden from You
when I was made in the secret place.*

When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,
Your eyes saw my unformed body.

*All the days ordained for me
were written in Your book before one of them came to be.*

How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

**Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand.**

When I awake, I am still with You.

– Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18



Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song: praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song: praising my Savior, all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

All To Us

Precious cornerstone, sure foundation, You are faithful to the end.
We are waiting on You, Jesus. We believe; You're all to us.
(repeat)

Let the glory of Your name be the passion of the Church.
Let the righteousness of God be a holy flame that burns.
Let the saving love of Christ be the measure of our lives.
We believe; You're all to us.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**
Amen.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in Heaven above adore Thee;
Infinite Thy vast domain, everlasting is Thy reign.

Spare Thy people, Lord, we pray,
By a thousand snares surrounded:
Keep us without sin today,
Never let us be confounded.
Lo, I put my trust in Thee; never, Lord, abandon me.

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DEUM



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my anxious thoughts.
*See if there be any hurtful way in me;
and lead me in the everlasting way.*

– Psalm 139:23, 24

[Silent confessions]

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beati/Psalm 1

Refrain: Beati, in domo Domini

(Blessed are they who dwell in God's house)

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Blessed are those who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful.
*But their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and in His law they mediate day and night.*

They will be like a trees firmly planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season;
their leaves never wither, and whatever they do prospers.

Refrain

*But the wicked are not so;
they are like the chaff which the wind drives away.*
Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
*For the LORD watches over the path of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.*

Refrain



TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving and praise for life:

D. J. Cook

All Around Me

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
If I settle on the far side of the sea,
Even there Your hand will lead and guide;
You're all around me.

Chorus:

And I'm surrounded
Everywhere I go;
Your presence covers me.
And Your constant love
Makes me know:
You're all around me.

Where can I go that I won't find you there?
If I try to hide you know just where I'd be.
You sustain me with Your faithfulness,
You're all around me.

Chorus

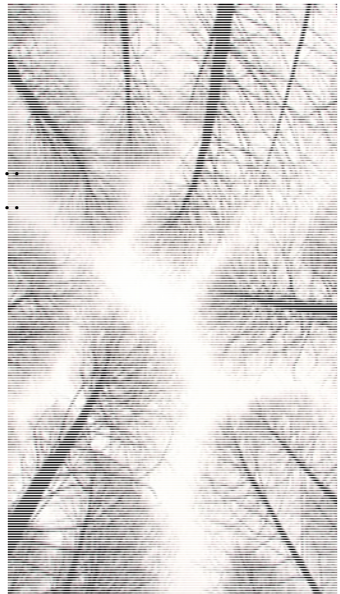
Bridge: (4 times)

All around, all around, all around You're...
All around, all around, all around You're...
All around, all around, all around me.

Chorus

Bridge: (3 times)

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THE WORD

Luke 14:25-33



THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Exhortation of Christ to the apostles,
James Tissot, c.1886

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



The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.

Verse 3

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Verse 4

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



All To Us (reprise)

Verse 2

Only Son of God, sent from heaven;
Hope and mercy at the cross.
You are ev'rything, You're the promise; Jesus, You are all to us.

Let the glory of Your name be the passion of the Church.
Let the righteousness of God be a holy flame that burns.
Let the saving love of Christ be the measure of our lives.
We believe; You're all to us.

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Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, let us remember with thankful and joyful hearts that He has called us to carry the cross and be His disciples.

Now to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations who fear Him, forever and ever.

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

Lectionary for next week: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; Exodus 32:7-14;
Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Those who have not denied themselves cannot follow Jesus. For choosing to follow Jesus and to actually follow Him springs from no ordinary courage. Those who deny themselves wipe out their former, wicked lives. . . . Those who have become righteous don't confess themselves but Christ. Those who find wisdom, because they possess wisdom, also confess Christ. And those who, "with the heart believe unto righteousness, and with the mouth make confession unto salvation," and testify for Christ's works by confessing them to others, will be confessed by Christ before His Father in heaven. . . . As a result, let every thought, every purpose, every word, and every action become a denial of ourselves and a testimony about Christ and in Christ. I am persuaded that the perfect person's every action is a testimony to Christ Jesus and that abstinence from every sin is a denial of self, leading to Christ. Those people are crucified with Christ. They take up their own crosses to follow Him who, for our sake, bears His own cross.” – Origen

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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