



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

October 5, 2014 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

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

Who is like You, O LORD –
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

The LORD is my strength and song;

He has become my salvation.

The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

Who is like You, O LORD –
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

He is the God who works wonders,

And He has displayed His might among the peoples.

Remember the deeds of the LORD, and meditate on all His work,
For He is great, and His way is holy.

His way was through the sea, His path through the mighty waters;

**He led His people like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness
like a flock. He split rocks in the wilderness and gave them**

drink abundantly as from the deep. He spread a table for them

**He rained down manna for them to eat, and gave them the
bread of heaven.**

Who is like You, O LORD –
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

This is my God, and I will praise Him;

this is our God; we will exalt Him!

– from Exodus 15, Psalms 118 and 78





Oh, the Lord, Our Strength and Song (Song of Moses)

Oh, the Lord, our strength and song;
Highest praise to Him belongs.
Christ, the Lord, the conquering King;
Your name we raise, Your triumphs sing.

Chorus:

Praise the Lord, our mighty warrior;
Praise the Lord, the glorious One;
By His hand we stand in victory,
By His name we overcome.

Verse 2:

Though the storms of hell pursue;
In darkest night we worship You.
You divide the raging sea;
From death to life You safely lead.

Verse 3:

All the saints and angels bow, hosts of heaven crying out,
“Glory, glory to the King. You reign for all eternity.”

Bridge:

The Lord shall reign forever and ever. (repeat)

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King thro' all eternity.



Crown Him the Lord of love! Behold His hands and side –
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n! One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit thro' Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died.
Be Thou, O Lord, thro' endless days adored and magnified!

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in these words of the Epistle to the Hebrews:

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come,
He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle,
not made with hands, that is, not of this creation;

*He entered once for all into the Holy Place,
not with the blood of goats and calves,
but with His own blood,
thus obtaining eternal redemption.*

For if the blood of goats and bulls,
with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer,
sanctifies those who have been defiled,
so that their flesh is purified –

*How much more will the blood of Christ, who
through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God,
purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God!*

**For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant,
so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the
transgressions that were committed under the first covenant,
those who have been called may receive the promise of the
eternal inheritance.**

–Hebrews 9:11-15



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,
Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our
weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are,
yet without sin.*

Let us therefore draw near to the throne of grace with confidence, so
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

– Hebrews 4:14-16

[Silence]

Faithful and everlasting God,

**We are Your covenant people – drawn by Your grace into
relationship with You. Yet we confess that we have often failed to
live as You would have us live. We have not done Your will. We
have not loved You with a whole heart. We have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and
forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your
ways, 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.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news of forgiveness:

When Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God . . . For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," He also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

– Hebrews 10:12-18

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of God's covenant love and faithfulness

You Have Been Good

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.
O Lord, Your steadfast love
And tender mercy have been our salvation.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, Almighty God,
Father unchanging, upright and holy.

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful, You have been good.

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THE WORD

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
John 6:51-58



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.

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Bread of the World

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed;
By whom the words of life were spoken,
And in whose death our sins are dead:
Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be your feast to us the token
That by your grace our souls are fed.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826); Hymn tune: RENDEZ À DIEU, Louis Bourgeois, in the
Genevan Psalter, 1551



Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us:

And we remember:

The promise made that all who come in faith

Find forgiveness at the cross.

So, we share in this Bread of Life,

And we drink of His sacrifice,

As a sign of our bonds of peace

Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you:

Eat and remember:

The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,

Paid the price to make us one.

So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,

As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin, shed for you:

Drink and remember:

He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.

So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His sacrifice,

As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond,

And to remember:

Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.

As we share in His suffering, we proclaim: Christ will come again!

And we'll join in the feast of heav'n around the table of the King.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Behold the Lamb (reprise verse 4)



Benediction:

People of God, we have worshiped the Lord together in this place –

We've gathered.

We've heard the word.

We've come to the Table.

And now, as we go forth, in faith and joy, to love and serve the Lord, may He grant that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Let those who are hungry come and be fed with heavenly food that will satisfy continual hunger. Let those who are thirsty come and with a full mouth drink the water of salvation from an ever-flowing fountain. By this divine food and drink the blind shall see, the deaf hear, and the dumb speak; the lame will walk, the foolish will be wise, the sick will be strong, and the dead will come to life again. The supreme and honest Judge will raise to life and to eternal light whoever has trampled on the corruptions of the earth by their righteousness. Let no one trust in riches, in badges of authority, or even in royal power. These things don't make a man immortal. For those who disregard the discipline of maturing by seeking present things throw themselves face first to the ground and will be punished as deserters from their Lord, Commander, and Father. Therefore, let us strain toward righteousness. It alone, as an inseparable companion, will lead us to God. "While a spirit rules these limbs," let us serve God with unwearied service. Let us keep our posts and watches. Let us boldly fight against the enemy, knowing that we have victory and will triumph. Then we will obtain the reward of courage which the Lord has promised.”

– Lactanius

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

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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