



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 23, 2012 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We have gathered to worship and praise our gracious God,
the Lord of creation.

**There is none like You, O LORD,
nor are there any works like Yours.**

All the nations You have made shall come and bow down before You,
O LORD, and shall glorify Your name.

For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

O LORD, how manifold are Your works!

In wisdom You have made them all.

We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart;
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**We will be glad and exult in you;
we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

— from Psalms 86, 104, and 9





We Bow Down

You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life,
Lord of the land and the sea.
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time,
And Lord of all lords You will be.

We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
Lord of all lords You will be.

You are King of creation and King of my life,
King of the land and the sea.
You were King of the heavens before there was time,
And King of all kings You will be.

We bow down and we crown You the King,
We bow down and we crown You the King,
We bow down and we crown You the King,
King of all kings You will be.

CCLI Song No. 20003. ©1984 New Spring. Twila Paris.

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

We Fall Down

We fall down, we lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of mercy and love,
At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy,
We cry holy, holy, holy,
We cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

CCLI Song No. 2437367; ©1998 worshiptogether.com songs; Chris Tomlin



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus,
although He existed in the form of God,
Did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped,
But emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
He humbled Himself,
And became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.
For this reason God also highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

– from Philippians 2:5-11

All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One;
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One;
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams.



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Beati/Psalm 1

Refrain: Beati, in domo Domini
(Blessed are they who dwell in God's house)

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Refrain

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 meditate 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.*

[Silent confessions]

Merciful and righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him; we are often slow to acknowledge His rule, and fail to live as Your covenant people. We have not loved You with a whole heart. We have acted out of selfish ambition, and have not valued others above our own interests. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. In your mercy, forgive us, and raise us to acclaim Jesus as ruler of all, that we walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.



Refrain: Beati, in domo Domini . . .

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let us rejoice in God's promises:

For though the LORD is exalted, yet He regards the lowly,
but the proud and haughty He knows only from afar.

*The LORD will fulfill His plans and purpose for His people;
His lovingkindness endures forever.* – Psalm 138:6, 8

It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work
for His good pleasure. – Philippians 2:13

TIME OF OFFERING

Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness,
knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control,
perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual
affection; and to mutual affection, love.

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will
keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge
of our Lord Jesus Christ. – 2 Peter 1:5-8

Prayers

. . . We humbly offer You our worship . . .

. . . In humility, we honor You . . .

. . . We humbly give You praise . . .



We Humbly Bow

We humbly bow before You now,
We lift our lives up to You.
On our knees we bring our humble offering
Of worship and honor and praise.

Chorus

Boldly we come to Your throne, O Father,
But only by grace can we come.
We've been bought by the precious blood of the Lamb.
We lay down our lives before You,
Jesus, we willingly give You all,
As humbly at Your feet we fall.
For it's the highest place of all, O Lord.

Verse 2

On this holy ground our hearts bow down,
Your awesome splendor overwhelms.
But there is no fear, for Jesus You are here;
Your shed blood has made us a way.

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THE WORD

James 3:13 – 4:3,7-8a
Philippians 2:1-8

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ



Supper at Emmaus, He Qui, Contemp

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 Servant King

From heav'n You came, helpless babe,
Enter'd our world, Your glory veiled;
Not to be served but to serve,
And give Your life that we might live.

Chorus:

This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow Him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.

Verse 2

There in the garden of tears,
My heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but Yours,' He said.

Verse 3

Come see His hands and His feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.

Verse 4

So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone Him;
Each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving.





SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

We Bow Down (reprise)

We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
We bow down and we worship You, Lord,
Lord of all lords You will be.

CCLI Song No. 20003. ©1984 New Spring. Twila Paris.

Benediction

Now, beloved, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.
May we be faithful doers of the word and not forgetful hearers –
always reflecting in our lives the wisdom from above, and walking in
love, giving honor and preference to others, as Christ has taught us,
for His glory.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“We read and believe many things in light of the Incarnation. But even in our human feelings, we can observe God's greatness. For example, Jesus is wearied by His journey so that He can refresh the weary. He desires a drink when He is about to give spiritual water to the thirsty. He was hungry when He was about to supply the food of salvation to the hungry. He dies to live again. He is buried to rise again. He hangs on the dreadful cross to strengthen those in dread. He veils the heaven with thick darkness so that He can give light. He makes the earth shake so that He may make it strong. He rouses the sea so that He can calm it. He opens the tombs of the dead so that He can show that they are the homes of the living. He is born of a virgin so that people can believe He is born of God.”

– Ambrose

Lectionary for next week: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124;
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

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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