

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy

October 20, 2013 (Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost)

#### GATHERING

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scoffers; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he mediates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall perish.

-Psalm 1 (ESV)





## Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace. Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above; Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me, Thou hast brought me to this place. And I know Thy hand will bring me Safely home by Thy good grace. Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God; He to rescue me from danger Bought me with His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be.
Let Your goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Your courts above.



Public domain. Text, Robert Robinson; Hymn tune: NETTLETON; traditional American melody, John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813

INVOCATION
Prayers of welcome and praise



## 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.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee; While in essence only One, Undivided God we claim Thee; And adoring bend the knee, While we own the mystery.

Public domain. Words: Attrib. to Ignaz Franz, 1774; transl. Clarence A. Walworth.

Music: TE DEUM

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, From whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name: I pray that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

And I pray that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

And to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,

That you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

- Ephesians 3:14-21



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### Call to Confession

Merciful God, in baptism You promise forgiveness of sins and newness of life. But too often we fail to live out our baptisms – putting off the *old* self who has been buried with Christ in His death and putting on the *new* self, raised to the new life of the Spirit.

[Silence]

In Your loving-kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises You make in baptism, so that we may live as your people, claimed in the waters of promise. Amen

[Silent confessions]

#### Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name; Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Songs and Prayers from Taizé; ©1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is good news indeed:

All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

#### Thanks be to God!

- from Romans 6:3-4



## TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving and praise

God of heaven and earth, You call us to come in humility before You, bringing the offering of our very selves. You claimed our lives in baptism, that we might die to sin and be raised with Him to new life.

So accept now all we have and all we are, O God, as expressions of our devotion, love and worship. May we be always, only, all for Thee.

## Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use ev'ry power as Your choose.

Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Your feet its treasure store. Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. 2013 All Rights Reserved. Adapted from the traditional hymn, public domain.

Words: Frances Havergal, 1874. Original tune: HENDON, Henri A. César Malan, 1827.



#### THE WORD

Psalm 1 Ephesians 3:14-19 Luke 8:4-15

## 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.

## 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.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

## O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free; Rolling as a mighty ocean In its fullness over me. Underneath me, all around me, Is the current of Thy love; Leading onward, leading homeward To my glorious rest above.



O the deep, deep love of Jesus – Spread His praise from shore to shore! How He loveth, ever loveth, Changeth never, nevermore. How He watches o'er His loved ones, Died to call them all His own. How for them He intercedeth, Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best; 'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me; And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

Traditional. Text: Samuel Trevor Francis. Tune: Thomas J. Williams (Hymn tune: EBENEZER); Setting Ellen Koehler ©2008

# SENDING FORTH The Life of the Body

Lift High the Cross

## Refrain

Lift High the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim, Till all the world adore His sacred Name.

Led on their way by this triumphant sign, The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.

Each baptized servant of the Crucified Bears now with oil the seal of Him who died.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, As Thou hast promised, draw the world to Thee.

So shall our song of triumph ever be; Praise to the Crucified for victory.

Public domain. Words: George W. Kitchin, modified by Michael R. Newbolt in 1916; verse 2 altered by Chris Alford, 2013. Hymn tune: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916.



#### Benediction:

God the Father, who sent His Spirit upon His Son, bless you with the presence of His Spirit.

Jesus, who received the Spirit and manifested the Father, abide in you and make you a manifestation of His life.

And God the Spirit, who came upon Christ in the fullness of power, empower you to live in the pattern of baptismal spirituality revealed in Jesus.

To the glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lectionary for next week: Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; Sirach 35:12-17; Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22; Psalm 84:1-7; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

A thought about worship...— "The baptized life is a life that is lived in the pattern of death and resurrection. . . . The way of being in Jesus, the way of living the new resurrected life, is through participation. . . . We participate in Christ by living the life of our baptism into his death and resurrection. This is a daily, existential, moment-by-moment experience as we choose in this or that situation to die to the sins for which Christ died and choose the life of the Spirit for which Christ was raised to a new life." (Robert E. Webber, Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 146-7.)

\*Confession and Benediction litanies adapted and reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook*, ©2004 CRC Publications, pp.524, 529-30.

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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