



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 4, 2012 (Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

He made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

He keeps faith forever.

He executes justice for the oppressed, He gives food to the hungry,
and sets the prisoners free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind, He lifts up those who are bowed down, and loves the righteous.

He watches over the stranger, and upholds the orphan and widow.

The LORD will reign forever, our God, to all generations.

Praise the LORD!

— from Psalm 146



Holy of Holies, M. Hogan, 2009



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

(Praise to the Lord, the Almighty)

All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

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Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

O The Passion

O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ;
King of Glory on the altar, Perfect Lamb of sacrifice.
Who are we that He would love us? Who but He would give His life?
O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ.

O, the wisdom, O, the wonder of the power of the cross;
Love so rare no words could tell it, Life Himself has died for us.
Who are we that He would save us? Crucified to give us life;
O, the wisdom, O, the wonder of the power of the cross.

Who are we that He would love us?
Who but He would give His life?
O, the passion, O, the wonder
Of the fiery love of Christ.

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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 approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we
may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

– Hebrews 4:14-16

[Silent confessions]

Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

Oh, precious is the flow,
That makes me white as snow.
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.



Nothing But the Blood

Faytene Grasseschi, Contemp

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ.

*But Christ suffered and died for us; He was raised from the dead and
ascended on high for us; He continues to intercede for us.*

And nothing shall separate us from the love of God
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Leader:

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

– from Romans 8:34, 39

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of thanksgiving and praise. . .

Meditation: Gracious Lord, through Your goodness and mercies You have blessed us with all we have, and all we are. With gratitude we willingly give back to You what is Yours. As Your covenant people we bow to You alone, bringing our humble offering of worship and honor and 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.

CCLI Song No. 1270955; 1994 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Tom Brooks



THE WORD

Hebrews 9:1-14

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 (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



O The Passion

O, the passion, O, the wonder of the fiery love of Christ;
Death defeated by His rising, Darkness conquered by His light.
We will sing His praise forever, Worthy is the Lamb of Life;
O, the passion, O, the wonder Of the fiery love of Christ.

Who are we that He would love us?
Who, but He would give His life?
O, the passion, O, the wonder
Of the fiery love of Christ.

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Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain;
Holy, holy is He.
Sing a new song to Him who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat.

Chorus

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You.

Verse 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power
Be to You, the only wise King.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (reprise)

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

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Benediction:

And now, beloved, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, eternal Savior, and King; and the love of God; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us and go with us all – as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“By genuine holiness, the people of God cast out the enemy of godliness. They do so by rejecting him, not by pacifying him. And they overcome all of the enemy's temptations by praying to God against him. For the devil can only conquer or master those who are allied with sin. Therefore, he is conquered in the name of the One who became human but lived without sin. . . . But we are separated from God by sin. And in his life, we aren't cleansed from sin by our own good deeds or our own power, but by God's compassion and forgiveness. For God, in His goodness, has given us any holiness we might have. While in the flesh, we might tend to attribute too much to ourselves if we don't live under God's pardon until the end. The Mediator offered us this grace so that we who are polluted by sinful flesh could be cleansed by one representing sinful flesh. And by this compassionate grace of God, we are governed by faith both in this life and after this life. We are led toward perfection by the vision of unfading truth.” – Augustine

Lectionary for next week: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

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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