



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

October 27, 2013 (Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

O Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or You had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

You who seek the Lord, praise Him.

All you, His people, glorify Him and stand in awe.

**In the midst of the assembly we will praise You;  
we will fulfill our vows before those who fear You.**

How blessed are those who dwell in Your house!

They are ever praising You.

**How blessed are those whose strength is in You,  
in whose hearts are the highways to Zion!**

How blessed are those whom You choose and bring near to You,  
to dwell in Your courts!

**We will abide in Your tabernacle forever;  
we will trust in the shelter of Your wings.**

**For You, O God, have heard our vows;**

**You have given us the heritage of those who fear Your name.**

— from Psalms 90, 22, 84, 65, 61



Krvie Eleison. Soichi Watanabe. Contempo.



### *Better Is One Day*

How lovely is Your dwelling place,  
O Lord Almighty.  
For my soul longs and even faints for You.  
For here my heart is satisfied,  
Within Your presence;  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

#### *Chorus*

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,  
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

#### *Chorus*

#### *Bridge*

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the living God;  
Your Spirit's water to my soul.  
I've tasted and I've seen, Your gift of love to me;  
I will draw near to You, I will abide in You.

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### INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

#### *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;  
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!



Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend, to us He'll condescend;  
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Public domain. Words, Christian H. Bateman (*Sacred Melodies for Children*, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843). Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader:

This is the gospel, which we received, by which we were saved, and in which we stand:

**Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared to many faithful witnesses.**

We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

*In Him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible.*

**All things have been created through Him and for Him, and in Him all things hold together.**

He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything.

*For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross.*

**This is in accordance with the working of the strength of His might, which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come.**

from 1 Cor. 15:1-7; Col. 1:15-20; Eph. 1:19-21



## *Ancient Words*

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world;  
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.  
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;  
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

### *Chorus*

Ancient words, ever true,  
Changing me, changing you.  
We have come with open hearts;  
O let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,  
Came to us through sacrifice; O heed the faithful words of Christ.  
Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;  
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.

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## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### Call to Confession

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:

Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus with himself,

“God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I pay tithes of all that I possess.”

But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying,

“*God, be merciful to me, a sinner!*”

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

– Luke 18:9-14



[Silent confessions]

### *The Jesus Prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
Have mercy on me, a sinner.  
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

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The Baptism of Christ, detail, Carlo Maratta, c.1698

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion;  
and to You shall our vows be performed.  
*O you who hear and answer prayer!*  
*To You shall all flesh come.*  
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,  
You forgive our transgressions.  
**How blessed are those You choose**  
**and bring near to live in Your courts!**  
*We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,*  
*the holiness of Your temple!*  
**By awesome deeds You answer us with deliverance,**  
**O God of our salvation;**  
**You are the hope of all the ends of the earth**  
**and of the farthest seas!**

– from Psalm 65:1-5



## TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving, faith and devotion

### *Dwell*

Dwell in the midst of us; come and dwell in this place.  
Dwell in the midst of us; come and have Your way.

Dwell in the midst of us; wipe all the tears from our faces.  
Dwell in the midst of us; You can have Your way

Not our will but Yours be done; Come and change us.  
Not our will but Yours be done; Come sustain us.

You can have Your way, oh Lord; You can have Your way.  
You can have Your way, oh Lord; You can have Your way

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## THE WORD

2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5

*“ ... continue in what you have learned and believed,  
knowing from whom you learned it ... ”*

## 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**

*Fullness of Grace*

Fullness of grace in man's human frailty,  
This is the wonder of Jesus.  
Laying aside His power and glory,  
Humbly He entered our world.  
Chose the path of meanest worth;  
Scandal of a virgin birth.  
Born in a stable, cold and rejected;  
Here lies the hope of the world.

Fullness of grace, the love of the Father  
Shown in the face of Jesus.  
Stooping to bear the weight of humanity,  
Walking the Calvary road.  
Christ the holy innocent took our sin and punishment.  
Fullness of God, despised and rejected;  
Crushed for the sins of the world.

Fullness of hope in Christ we had longed for,  
Promise of God in Jesus.  
Through His obedience we are forgiven,  
Op'ning the floodgates of heav'n.  
All our hopes and dreams we bring gladly as an offering.  
Fullness of life and joy unspeakable: God's gift in love to the world.

CCLI Song #4411752; ©2004 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body



*Come, Christians, Join to Sing (verse 3)*

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

Public domain.

**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:** Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; Isaiah 1:10-18;  
    Psalm 32:1-7; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10  
*All Saints' Day (Nov. 1):* Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23;  
    Luke 6:20-31

***A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –***

“Three things are found in faith. Those who work out their faith through love must hope for what God promises. Hope, therefore, is the partner of faith. For hope is necessary as long as we don't see what we believe, or else, by not seeing we would fail. Not seeing makes us sad, but the hope of seeing comforts us. . . . Love is also the partner of faith. We long glow with desire for it, and hunger and thirst for it. So together there is faith, hope, and love. . . . Take away faith and all you believe in evaporates; take away love and all that you do evaporates. For the purpose of faith is to believe; of love, to do. For if you believe without love, you don't diligently perform good works. Or, if you do, you do so as a slave out of fear of punishment instead of as a child out of love of righteousness. Therefore, faith purifies the heart and is worked out by love..”  
– Augustine

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

[www.Epiclesis.org](http://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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