



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 3, 2013 (Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Leader: We are gathered to declare the glory, power, majesty, and grace of our God.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth:

Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

Every day I will bless You;

And I will praise Your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

His greatness is unsearchable.

The LORD is gracious and merciful;

slow to anger and great in lovingkindness.

The LORD is good to all, and His mercies are over all His works.

All Your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all Your saints shall bless You!

One generation shall praise Your works to another; they shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom and talk of Your power –

To make known to the children of men Your mighty acts and the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

– from Psalms 66 and 145





Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favor
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness!

Fatherlike, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels in the height, adore Him;
You behold Him face to face.
Saints triumphant, bow before Him;
Gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

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The Conversion of Zacchaeus, Bernardo Strozzi, c.1600s



INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise the everlasting King.
Glorious in His faithfulness.
Widely yet His mercy flows.
Praise with us the God of grace!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
**who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly places in Christ.**

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

In love He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to
Himself, according to the purpose of His will,
**to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us
in the Beloved.**

In Him we have redemption through His blood,
**the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His
grace which He lavished upon us.**

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance,
**having been predestined according to His purpose, to the end
that we should be to the praise of His glory.**

In Him, we also were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,
**who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of
those who are God's possession, to the praise of His glory.**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our
Lord Jesus Christ.

**Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we
stand; and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.**

– from Ephesians 1:3-14 and Romans 5:1-2



Of the Father's Love Begotten (Doxology)

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

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PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Blessed are those

whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are those

*whose sin the Lord does not count against them,
and in whose spirits is no deceit.*

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

*For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
My strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.*

[Silent confessions]

Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," And You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to You.

– from Psalm 32:1-6

[Silent confessions]



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.

Setting: Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the LORD to us, His people:

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to set us free from the present
evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.*

– Galatians 1:3-4

Listen to what the LORD our God says: He promises peace to His
people, His faithful servants, to those who turn their hearts to Him.

– Psalm 85:7-8

The LORD will give strength to His people;
The LORD will bless His people with peace.

– Psalm 29:11



TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving, faith and devotion

Almighty and loving God, You have graced us with abundant blessings, 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.

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

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10



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**

May the Peace

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within His love.

Chorus

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:
Christ eternal, the King of kings!

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of His communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (reprise)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
Glorious in His faithfulness. Widely yet His mercy flows.
Praise with us the God of grace!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Hear these words of benediction and blessing from the Apostle Paul:
May our God make you worthy of His call and fulfill by His power
every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord
Jesus may be glorified in you.

And now, with grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ, we go into the world to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

– based on 2 Thessalonians 1:2, 11-12

Lectionary for next week: Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5,17-21; Psalm 98;
Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9;
2 Thessalonians 2:1-6, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“You can't blame any human faults on God, for pride causes all human offenses. Their remedy, however, the conviction and removal of sin, comes from heaven. In mercy, God humbles Himself. He descends from above and displays to us pure, visible grace in human form. He becomes a Man of great love for those who join with Him. For even though the Word of God was so united with God as to be called His Son, He was also the Son of Man, and never acted according to His own will. . . . This is an important example for us. It is the divine lesson taught by and learned from the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden in Christ. Now we all know, now we don't know; now we rejoice, now we don't rejoice—in order to begin, continue, and complete our good work. Then we will understand that our knowledge and joy aren't a result of our own wills, but are gifts of God. We will be cured of our vanity and understand the spiritual truth that ‘The Lord will give kindness and sweet grace, and our land shall yield her fruit.’” – Augustine

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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