



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 10, 2013 (Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things,
His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

The LORD has made known His salvation;

He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King!

We will extol You, our God and King;

and we will bless Your name forever and ever.

For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

His greatness is unsearchable.

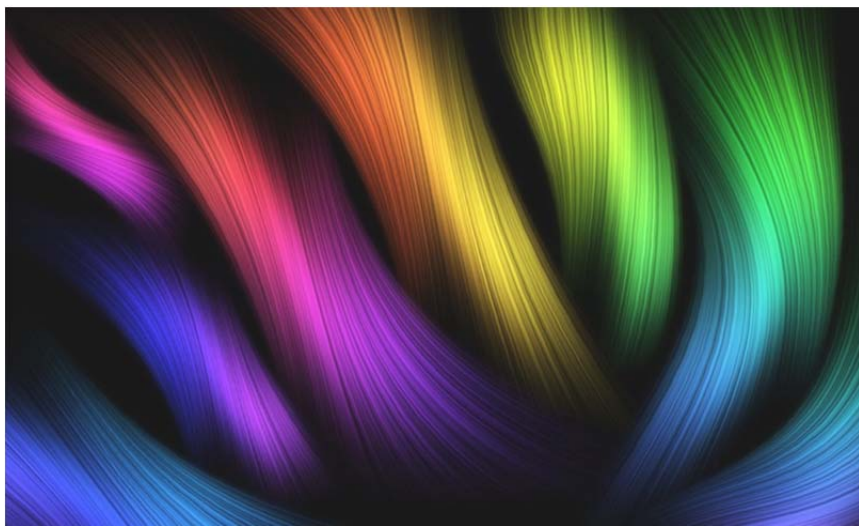
One generation shall praise Your works to another,

and shall declare Your mighty acts.

The LORD has done marvelous things!

We will praise His name forever and ever.

– from Psalm 98:1-4 and 145:1-4, 21



Sing to the Lord



Eternal, Immortal God of all glory,
Fearful in wonders and worthy of praise;
The Alpha, Omega, Lord God Almighty,
Wonderful, Beautiful, Ancient of Days.

Chorus

And I sing praise, I give You my heart,
I sing praise, I give You my all,
I sing praise –
Sing to the Lord.

Redeemer, Messiah, Rock of the ages,
A help in trouble, a tower of strength;
Emmanuel, Jehovah, God of Creation,
Wonderful, Beautiful, King of all kings.

Bridge

God of compassion and God of all gladness and
Your tender mercies are new every morning, and
God of compassion and God of all gladness and
You dance around me,
You dance around me.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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Revelation Song (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.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

In fulfillment of His own purpose He gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we could become a kind of first fruits of His creatures. *Because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, He made us alive together with Christ, And raised us up together with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, So that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

For by grace we have been saved through faith; and that not of ourselves;

It is the gift of God, not of works so that no one may boast.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we should walk in them.

– from 1 Peter 1:3; James 1:18; Ephesians 2:4-10



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Thus says the LORD God, “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength.” But you were not willing. *Yet, the LORD longs to be gracious to you; He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice.*

Blessed are all those who wait for Him.

– Isaiah 30:15, 18

[Silent reflection]

Merciful God,

we confess that we have done things we regret...
that we have failed to do what we ought...
that we have acted without love...
that we have reacted without thought...
that we have failed to forgive...
that we have not fully walked in Your ways...

Be gracious to us, and hear our prayer.

**Accomplish in us the work of Your salvation, that we may walk as
Your people of hope and show forth Your ways, to the glory of
Your name. Amen.**

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
All my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;
God, the well-spring of life.

Music from the Taizé community ©1982 Les Presses de Taizé (France)



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, this is the reason for our hope:

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and great in mercy.

He is righteous in all His ways, and faithful in all He does.

The LORD is near to all who call on Him,
to all who call on Him in truth.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him; He hears their cry, and saves them. The LORD preserves all who love Him.

– Psalm 145:8, 17-20a

**“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul;
“therefore I have hope in Him.”**

The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good to hope in the salvation of the LORD!

– from Lamentations 3:24-26

The LORD is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.

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

– Psalm 145:9-10



TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving and testimonies of faithfulness



The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.

Verse 3

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

Verse 4

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

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THE WORD

2 Thessalonians 2:1-6, 13-17

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)

Beneath the Cross

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I find a place to stand;
And wonder at such mercy, that calls me as I am.
For hands that should discard me,
 hold wounds which tell me, "Come."
Beneath the cross of Jesus, my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, His fam'ly is my own.
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one, through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor the ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus, see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown,
We follow in His footsteps, where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us to be His perfect bride.
Beneath the cross of Jesus, we will gladly live our lives.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

The Solid Rock (reprise)



When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

Benediction:

Hear these words of benediction and blessing from the Apostle Paul:

God chose you from the beginning for salvation and that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

Thanks be to God!

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, encourage and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word, as you go forth into the world to walk out your baptisms, loving and serving the Lord.

– from 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12; Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-9

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Courage and confidence are our weapons to deflect the enemy's surprise attacks. Hope and patience are the staffs to lean on when we are worn out by worldly trials. And we must stock up on sorrow and be ready to apply it, if need be, when we repent of our sins. At the same time, we must believe that it is only useful for serving our repentance. Righteousness will be our straightedge ruler, guarding us from stumbling in word or action, guiding us how to use our spiritual abilities, and teaching us to be considerate towards everyone we meet.... But someone who doesn't properly use the spiritual abilities, but uses them for opposite reasons... is inexpressibly strange and unnatural. Imagine someone putting on his armor the wrong way: reversing the helmet so that it covers his face, putting his feet into the breastplate, fitting the shin guards onto his chest, putting everything on the right side belongs to the left and vice versa. How would such a soldier be likely to fare in battle? So then, this gives us an idea of the fate awaiting those who use their spiritual abilities contrary to their proper use.” – Gregory of Nyssa

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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