



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 17, 2013 (Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

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.

He has remembered His steadfast love and His faithfulness
to the house of Israel;

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;

Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King.

Let the sea roar, and all its fullness,
the world and those who dwell in it.

*Let the rivers clap their hands and the mountains sing together for joy
before the LORD, for He is coming to judge the earth.*

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

We will sing praises to the LORD, for He has done excellent things;

Let this be known throughout the earth.

Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O people of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy of Israel.

— from Psalm 98 and Isaiah 12





Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You;
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing;
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand;
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

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.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Isaiah 65:17-25

Refrain: The Lord is My Light

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation;
In God I trust, in God I trust.

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

Thus says the LORD:

Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth;

and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

*But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for behold, I
create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people a gladness.*

And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and be glad in My people. No more
shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

*No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, nor an
old person who does not live out a lifetime;*

For the one who dies at a hundred years shall be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred shall be considered accursed.

Refrain

*They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards
and eat their fruit.*

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and
another eat.

*For like the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My
chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.*

They shall not labor in vain, nor bear children for calamity; for they
shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their
descendants with them.

*It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer;
and while they are still speaking, I will hear.*

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like
the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or
destroy in all My holy mountain, says the LORD.

Refrain



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD, and who may stand in His holy place?

Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, whose walk is blameless, who do what is righteous;

Those who do no wrong to a neighbor; who honor those who fear the LORD.

*They shall receive a blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation.*

– from Psalms 15 and 24

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

[Silence]

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

[Silence]

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away
The sins of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away
The sins of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away
The sins of the world;
Grant us peace.

CCLI Song #3204324 ©1989 Celebration. Betty Carr Pulkingham



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the day of His favor, you will say:

I will give thanks to You, O LORD. For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away and You comfort me.

Behold., God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.

For the LORD GOD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation.

Therefore you joyously draw water from the springs of salvation!

– Isaiah 12:1-3

TIME OF OFFERING

Sharing words of thanksgiving and testimonies of faithfulness

Loving Lord, You are the Creator, the Artist, the Master Potter of our lives. Lord, fashion our hearts. Write Your name in the clay. Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring as worship to You. Take all we are, and all we have. We are Yours forever.

Paint Your Picture

Pick me up like a paintbrush, God,
Dip it in the colors of my life.
Paint Your picture, Father,
Fashion a heart that is wholly Yours.
Take Your fingers, God,
Master Potter, come mold the clay.
Tell Your story, as You mold me,
Fashion a heart that is wholly Yours.

And write Your name, write Your name, in the clay.
And sign Your name, sign Your name on the picture.

Take all I am, take all I have
For I am Yours forever, Forever

So come write Your name, write Your name, in the clay.
Come sign Your name, sign Your name, on the picture.

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THE WORD

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ



The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

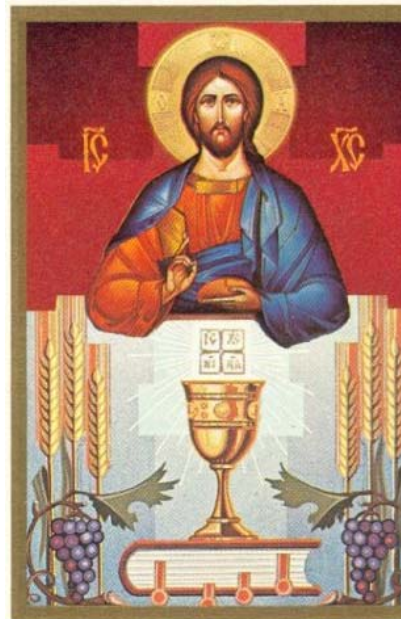
We lift them up to the Lord.

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 us 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**





When It's All Been Said and Done

When it's all been said and done,
There is just one thing that matters:
Did I do my best to live for truth?
Did I live my life for You?

When it's all been said and done,
All my treasures will mean nothing;
Only what I've done for love's reward
Will stand the test of time.

Lord, Your mercy is so great,
That you look beyond our weakness;
And find purest gold in miry clay,
Making sinners into saints.

I will always sing Your praise,
Here on earth and ever after;
For You've shown me Heaven's my true home,
When it's all been said and done,
You're my life when life is gone.

When it's all been said and done,
There is just one thing that matters:
Did I do my best to live for truth?
Did I live my life for You?
Lord, I'll live my life for You.



CCLI Song No. 2788353 ©1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Jim Cowan.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Angel By a Spring of Water, Mar
Lawrence, contemp.



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (verse 4)

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:

Now beloved, 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, as you go forth into the
world to walk out your baptisms, loving and serving the Lord.

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

– based on 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Lectionary for next week: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20;
Luke 23:33-43

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Let us allow Christ to speak through us. He desires it more than we do. For He made this instrument and wouldn't want it to be useless and idle. He always wants to keep it in His hands. Why, then, don't you make it useful for the Maker's hand? Why do you allow your soul to be unstrung, relaxed through luxury, and allow the whole harp to be useless to Him? You should keep all its parts completely stretched, well strung, and reinforced with spiritual salt. For if Christ sees your soul tuned this way, He will make His music through it. When this has taken place, you will see angels leaping for joy (archangels and the cherubim too). So then, let us become worthy of His spotless hands. Let us invite Him to strike our hearts. Rather, He doesn't need inviting. If you make it worthy of His touch, He will be the first to run to you. Considering that He runs to those who haven't become their best yet, when He sees one completely equipped, what won't He do? If Christ makes music and the Spirit rests on us, we will be better than heaven. Although we won't have the sun and the moon adorning our body, the Lord of the sun, moon, and angels will be dwelling and walking in us.”

– Chrysostom

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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