

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy

June 22, 2014 (Second Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the LORD, the God of all creation, maker of heaven and earth;

We are gathered to declare the glory, majesty, and steadfast love of our God.

Give thanks to the LORD with a whole heart: tell of all His wonderful works.

There is none like You, O LORD. nor are there any works like Yours.

For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

All the nations You have made shall come and bow down before You, O LORD, and shall glorify Your name.

O LORD, You are my God; I will extol You; I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

We will give thanks to You, O LORD, with our whole heart, and sing of Your ways; for great is the glory of the LORD!

- from Psalms 86 and 138, Isaiah 25:1





Bless the Lord

For He is great and mighty.
For He is great and greatly to be praised.
For He is great in mercy.
I will bless His holy name.
For He is great in power.
For He is great, a fortress is our God.
For He is great in strength and honor.
I will bless the Lord of all.

Bless the Lord, bless the Lord, at all times, at all times. Bless the Lord, bless the Lord, at all times, at all times – I will bless You with all that is within me, I will bless the Lord.

CCLI Song #4194316 ©2003 Integrity's Praise! Music. Israel Houghton and Cindy Ratcliff.

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace. Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above; Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me, Thou hast brought me to this place. And I know Thy hand will bring me Safely home by Thy good grace. Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God; He to rescue me from danger Bought me with His precious blood.



Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be. Let Your goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love; Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Your courts above.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2003 Ellen Koehler. Text, Robert Robinson; Hymn tune: NETTLETON; traditional American melody, John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in the words of this creed of the ancient church:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again; He ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name; Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Incline Your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to You; You are my God; save Your servant, who trusts in You.

[Silence]

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for to You do I cry all the day. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to You, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.

For You, O LORD, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.

In the day of my trouble I call upon You, for You answer me.

[Silent confessions]

You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.

- Psalm 86:3-7

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name; Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is good news indeed:

All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Thanks be to God!

- from Romans 6:3-4

I will praise You, O LORD my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever. For great is Your steadfast love.

- Psalm 86:12-13a



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Gracious and awesome God.

You have given us eternal and abundant life in Christ Jesus our Lord. In gratitude and with joyful thanksgiving, we bring our tribute to the King of Heaven. Accept, we pray, your tithes and our offerings as signs of our worship, devotion and praise to you, the God of grace.

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! Praise with us the God of grace!

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 with us the God of grace!

New tune setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler. Words: Henry F. Lyte, based on Psalm 103.



THE WORD

Romans 6:1-11 Romans 8:1-2, 7-17 Psalm 32 Genesis 5:18-24

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



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

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!

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2011 Ellen Koehler. Words: Henry F. Lyte.

Benediction:

Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

Amen!

— Jude 24-25

Beloved, go forth into the world with joy, to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers -

"The fear of the Lord is our cross. Those who are crucified no longer have the power to move or turn their limbs in any direction they please. Similarly, we shouldn't fix our wishes and desires on what pleases and delights us now, but according to how the Law of the Lord constrains us. Those who are fastened to the wood of the cross no longer consider present things or think about their preferences. They aren't distracted by anxiety and care for tomorrow and aren't disturbed by the desire for any possession. They aren't inflamed by pride, strife, or rivalry. They don't grieve during present pain and don't remember past injuries. For while they are still breathing in the body, they consider themselves dead to every earthly thing. Instead, they send the thoughts of their heart ahead to where they know they will shortly follow. So when we are crucified by fear of the Lord, we should definitely be dead to all these things. That is, we shouldn't only die to wickedness, but also to every earthly thing. We should fix the eye of our minds onto the place we constantly hope to reach. For in this way we can destroy all our desires and fleshly affections." – John Cassian

Lectionary for next week: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 28:5-9; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

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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