



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

June 29, 2014 (Third Sunday after Pentecost)

## GATHERING

Leader: Shout joyfully to God, all the earth:

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

I will sing of Your steadfast love, O LORD, forever.

With my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations.

*I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever.*

*Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.*

It is good to praise the LORD,

and make music to Your name, O Most High;

*To proclaim Your love in the morning*

*and Your faithfulness at night.*

The LORD is faithful in all His works and merciful in all His deeds.

*For the LORD is good and His lovingkindness endures forever;*

*His faithfulness continues through all generations!*

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!

– from Psalms 66, 89, 92, 95



The Hospitality of Abraham, Leslie Xuereb, Contemp



*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

And I sing praise, I give You my heart,  
I sing praise, I give You my all,  
I sing 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

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in these words  
from the Heidelberg Catechism:

**I am called Christian  
because by faith I am a member of Christ,  
and so I share in His anointing.**

**I am anointed  
to confess His name,  
to present myself to Him as a living sacrifice of thanks,  
to strive with a good conscience  
against sin and the devil in this life,  
and afterward to reign with Christ  
over all creation, for all eternity.**

**We call him “our Lord” because —  
not with gold or silver, but with His precious blood —  
He has set us free  
from sin and from the tyranny of the devil,  
and has bought us, body and soul,  
to be His very own.**

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 32, 34



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

The apostle Paul exhorts us to consider ourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus:

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies. . . . but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and offer every part of yourselves to Him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin will no longer have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”  
– from Romans 6:11-14

*Lord, You have called us to become Your own. We were bought with a price, the price of Your life and blood. We love You, and we want to live for You.*

[Silence]

Lord, help us to spread Your fragrance everywhere we go.

**Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come in contact with may feel Your presence in our soul. Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus!**

[Silence]

Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as You shine.

**Let us preach You without preaching, not by words but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to You.**

– adapted from a prayer by John Henry Newman

*May the Mind of Christ, My Savior*

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,  
By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph only through His power.

May the love of Jesus fill me, as the waters fill the sea;  
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

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#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.  
*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

– Romans 6:22-23

**Thanks be to God!**

#### TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

##### *The Compassion Hymn*

There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us  
When the radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost;  
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress  
For Your streams of forgiveness and the shade of Your rest.

And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand  
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again;  
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears,  
Heard the sigh of the weary, let the children draw near.

##### *Chorus*

What boundless love, what fathomless grace  
You have shown us, O God of compassion!  
Each day we live, an off'ring of praise  
As we show to the world Your compassion.

We stood beneath the cross of Calv'ry and gazed on Your face,  
At the thorns of oppression and the wounds of disgrace;  
For surely You have borne our suff'ring and carried our grief  
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief.

##### *Chorus*

How beautiful the feet that carry this gospel off peace  
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need;  
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries  
Of the hungry and helpless with the mercy of Christ.

##### *Chorus*

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## THE WORD

Matthew 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 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**



*I Will Arise and Go to Jesus*

*Chorus*

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
Oh there are ten thousand charms.

*Verse 1*

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
Full of pity, love and pow'r.

*Verse 2*

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,  
God's free bounty glorify;  
True belief and true repentance,  
Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.

*Verse 3*

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
Lost and ruined by the fall;  
If you tarry till you're better,  
You will never come at all.

*Verse 4*

Let not conscience make you linger,  
Nor of fitness fondly dream.  
All the fitness He requireth  
Is to feel your need of Him.

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Tune: William Walker (1835).



## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

#### *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; gladly for aye we adore Him!

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#### Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, let us remember with thankful hearts that He has called us into the company of those who trust in Christ and seek to obey His will. He has welcomed us to Himself, and has given us the privilege and charge to love and serve others as He has loved us. Now to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

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

*A thought about worship...*— “God’s story is no abstract, esoteric story that has nothing to do with life. God’s story is the very essence of Christian living. Life is not a willy-nilly, ‘be nice to your neighbor’ philosophy but a life to be lived in the way God designed it to be lived. This new life is to be a very reflection of God’s own being and nature.” (Robert E. Webber, *The Divine Embrace: Recovering the Passionate Spiritual Life* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2006, 43).

*Lectionary readings for next week:* Genesis 24:34-67; Psalm 45:10-17;  
Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Zechariah 9:9-12;  
Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-30

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
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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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