

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy

July 13, 2014 (Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion; to You our vows will be fulfilled.

You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God, our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of the farthest seas.

You formed the mountains by Your power, having armed Yourself with strength,

You stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

Those living far away fear Your wonders;

where morning dawns and evening fades You call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it; You enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water

to provide the people with grain, for so You have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

You soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with Your bounty,

and Your carts overflow with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks

and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion;

to You our vows will be fulfilled.

- from Psalm 65:1, 5-13





Let the Peoples Praise

Let the peoples praise You, O God. (4x)

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, You will reign on Mount Zion forevermore. Shine the light of Your face all over us – King of kings.

Let the peoples praise You, O God. (4x)

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Fling wide all of the gates, open all of the doors; Out of Zion You reign, Your glory shines forth – Emmanuel.

Only One, only One worthy (3x) Worthy is the Lamb. (Repeat)

Let the peoples praise You, O God. (2x)

Glory to the Righteous One (3x)From the ends of the earth we hear songs. There is

Only One, only One worthy (3x) Worthy is the Lamb. (Repeat)

Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb; Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.

Glory to the Righteous One (3x) From the ends of the earth we hear songs. Glory to the Righteous One (3x) Hallelujah! The Lamb has won.

©2005 Alisha Powell/Forerunner Music: Alisha Powell

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise



Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God, and man the Son; Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man: Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be Thine.

Public Domain; Anon. German hymn Münster Gesangbuch, 1677; transl. source unknown, vs 1-3; vs 4, Joseph A. Seiss. Music Schleische Volksleider, 1842 Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2010

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Together we profess the faith of the church of all ages from the words of the Apostle Paul:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death.

Sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

The mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.

The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

However, we are not in the realm of the flesh but in the realm of the Spirit, because the Spirit of God lives in us and we belong to Christ.

Christ is in us, and though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in us, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies through His Spirit who lives in us.

- from Romans 8:1-11



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,

to observe Your righteous ordinances.

I am severely afflicted; give me life, O LORD, according to Your word.

Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,

and teach me Your ordinances.

- Psalm 119:105-108

[Silence]

Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. I incline my heart to perform Your statutes forever, to the end,

- Psalm 119:111-112

[Silent confessions]

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me, a sinner. Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

©2002 Petaluma Music; Setting by David Baker

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion;

and to You shall vows be performed.

O you who hear and answer prayer! to You shall all flesh come.

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, You forgive our transgressions.

How blessed are those You choose

and bring near to live in Your courts!

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple!

By awesome deeds You answer us with deliverance,

O God of our salvation;

You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas!

- from Psalm 65:1-5



TIME OF OFFERING Words and testimonies of God's faithfulness

Knowing You

All I once held dear, Built my life upon, All this world reveres, And wars to own, All I once thought gain I have counted loss; Spent and worthless now, Compared to this.

Chorus Knowing You, Jesus, Knowing You, There is no greater thing. You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy,

My righteousness, And I love you, Lord.

Verse 2

Now my heart's desire is to know You more, To be found by You, and known as Yours, To possess by faith what I could not earn; All surpassing gift of righteousness.

Verse 3

Oh to know the pow'r of Your risen life, And to know You in Your sufferings, To become like You in Your death, my Lord; So with You to live, and never die.

CCLI Song #1045238; ©1993 Make Way Music; Graham Kendrick CCLI License #3097801



THE WORD

Genesis 24:19-34

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.

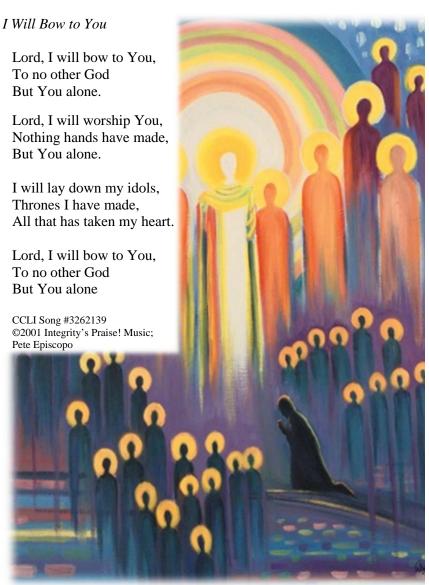
The Heel Grabber: Birth of Jacob an Esau, Arthur Sussman, Contempora

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)





SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Elizabeth Wang, Contempora



Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Public domain. Words: Thomas Ken, 1674. Tune: Old 100th (attributed to Louis Bourgeois)

Benediction:

And now, as we go forth, in faith and joy, to love and serve the Lord, may He grant that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers -

"One who delights in the world, who is enticed by flattering and deceiving earthly pleasures wants to remain in the world a long time... Since the world hates Christians, why do you love that which hates you? And why don't you follow Christ instead, who both redeemed you and loves you? John, in his epistle, cries and urges us not to follow fleshly desires and love the world. 'Love not the world,' he says, 'neither the things which are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world is the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, which is not of the Father, but of the lust of the world. And the world shall pass away, and the lust thereof; but he who doeth the will of God abideth forever, even as God abideth forever.' Instead, beloved, let us be prepared for the will of God with a sound mind, a firm faith, and strong virtue. Laying aside the fear of death, let us think on the eternal life to come. Through this knowledge, let us demonstrate that we are what we believe. . . . Then we won't delay or resist the Lord on the day He calls us to Himself."

- Cyprian

Lectionary readings for next week: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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.

©2014 E.K