

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

July 14, 2013 (Eighth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

O LORD, there is no God like You in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and showing lovingkindness to Your servants who walk before You with all their heart.

Oh, let those who fear the LORD say:

His lovingkindness is everlasting.

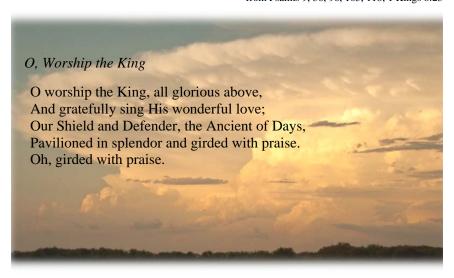
How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!

The children of men take refuge under the shadow of Your wings; We feast on the abundance You provide.

He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations.

We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart; and proclaim the good news of Your salvation from day to day. We will be glad and exult in you; and sing praise to your name, O Most High!

- from Psalms 9, 36, 96, 105, 118; 1 Kings 8:23





O tell of His might and sing of His grace, Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space; His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, And dark is the path on the wings of the storm. Oh, sing of His grace.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain. Oh, worship the King, worship the King.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail; Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend. Redeemer and Friend, He's our Redeemer and Friend, Oh, worship the King. Worship the King.

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Sing to the Lord

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.

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

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.



Chorus

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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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us.

In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth.

For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose, who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we should be to the praise of His glory.

In Him, we also were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things.

- from Ephesians 1:3-14; Romans 11:36



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Psalm 25

Refrain (sung):
To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in You I put my trust.

(Spoken)

Do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for You be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Refrain

Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long.

Refrain

Be mindful of Your mercy, O LORD, and of Your steadfast love, For they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; According to Your steadfast love remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

Refrain

[Silent confessions]

Faithful and merciful God, Your love is everlasting. Yet we confess that often we have failed to live as Your covenant people. We have not done Your will. We have not loved You with a whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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.



Refrain (sung):
To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in You I put my trust.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, let's be reminded of the steadfast and faithful promises of the Lord:

Good and upright is the LORD;

therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right,

And teaches the humble His way.

Who are those who fear the LORD?

He will instruct them in the way they should choose.

Their souls shall abide in prosperity,

and their children shall inherit the land.

The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes His covenant known to them.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His decrees.

- Psalm 25: 8-10, 12-14



TIME OF OFFERING

Testimonies and words of God's goodness and faithfulness Prayers of thanksgiving and devotion



You Have Been Good

O Lord, You have been good; You have been faithful to all generations. O Lord, Your steadfast love And tender mercy have been our salvation.

For by Your hand we have been fed, And by Your Spirit we have been led. O Lord, You have been good; You have been faithful to all generations.

For by Your hand we have been fed, And by Your Spirit we have been led. O Lord, Almighty God, Father unchanging, upright and holy.

O Lord, You have been good; You have been faithful, You have been good.

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THE WORD

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

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 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

Here is Love

Here is love, vast as the ocean, lovingkindness as the flood, When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, shed for us His precious blood. Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise? He can never be forgotten, throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide; Through the floodgates of God's mercy Flowed a vast and gracious tide. Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above, And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice Kissed a guilty world in love.

Of Your fullness You are pouring Your great pow'r and love anew, Without measure, full and boundless, drawing out our hearts to You. You alone will be our glory, nothing in the world we see. You have cleansed and sanctified us, You Yourself have set us free.

Let us all, Your love accepting, love You ever, all our days; Let us seek Your kingdom only, and our lives be to Your praise.

Public Domain. William Rees (vs. 1-2); transl. from Welsh by William Edwards (1900) verses 3-4 attributed to William Williams (adapted by Ellen Koehler); Music: Robert Lowry, 1876.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Sing to the Lord (reprise)

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.

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

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Benediction:

Brothers and sisters, we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, remembering with thankful hearts the steadfast love of our God. He remembers and keeps His covenant forever. So let us walk before Him with a whole heart, fearing the Lord and delighting in His promises.

Now to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations who fear Him, forever and ever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lectionary for next week: Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Genesis 18:1-10a; Psalm 15; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers -

"No one can see the 'face,' that is, the appearance of God's wisdom, and live. For all who strive to love God with all their heart, soul, and mind long to study this revelation. Through its study, those who love their neighbors encourage them as much as they can. All the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments. . . . So, while we are absent from the Lord and walk by faith instead of sight, we should see the "back parts" or flesh of Christ. By that very faith, we stand on the solid foundation and rock of faith and we observe it from a safe watch tower. . . . For we come to love to see the face of Christ even more as we recognize how much Christ first loved us in His flesh." — Augustine

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.