



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

August 14, 2011 (Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

Sing the glory of His name; Make His praise glorious.

Say to God:

“How awesome are Your works and the greatness of Your power!

All the earth worships You; they sing praises to You.”

We sing praises to Your name.

Come and see what God has done:

He is awesome in His deeds among His people.

Come, let us rejoice in Him!

He rules forever by His power; His eyes keep watch on the nations.

The Lord reigns in majesty and is clothed with strength!

His throne was established long ago; He is from all eternity.

Bless our God, O peoples, and make the voice of His praise be heard.

Praise the Lord!

— from Psalm 66 and 95



Psalm 133, Unity, St. Albans Psalter, 12th Century



How Great is our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice.

Chorus

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God;
And all will see how great,
How great is our God.

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands:
Beginning and the End, beginning and the End.
The Godhead Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, Lion and the Lamb.

Bridge

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing, How great is our God.
You're the name above all names, You're worthy of all praise
My heart will sing how great is our God

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How Great Thou Art (chorus)

Then sings my soul, my Savior, God to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

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INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise



How Great is our God (reprise)

Name above all names, You're worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing how great is our God

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Beati/Psalms 133 and 67

Refrain:

Beati, in domo Domini (Happy are they who dwell in God's house)

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Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when God's children live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,
On the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the Lord ordained His blessing, Life evermore. – Psalm 133

Refrain

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine
upon us, that His way may be known upon the earth,
His saving power among all nations. – Psalm 67:1-2

Refrain

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples
with equity and guide the nations upon the earth. – Psalm 67:1-2

Refrain

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.
The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere Him.
– Psalm 67:1-2

Refrain



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You.
We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy.

We have not loved You with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

[Silence]

We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with You, our God.

[Silence]

Have mercy on us, O God, in Your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.**

**Do not cast us from Your presence,
or take Your Holy Spirit from us.**

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us
with Your bountiful Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

– based on Psalm 51:10-12

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Grace Greater Than Our Sin (refrain)

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

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The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. He is righteous in all His ways, and faithful in all He does.

The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He will hear their cry and save them. The LORD keeps all who love Him.

My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.

Psalm 145:8. 17-21

READING: Matthew 15:10-28

TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and devotion

Lord God, heavenly King: we also were lost sheep, and You, the good and great Shepherd, sought us and saved us and healed us. Increase our faith, we pray, as we walk in Your words. Accept these offerings as signs of our thankfulness, love, and devotion. Through these, as through our praises, we thank You and acknowledge that You are our Lord. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

It's all about You, Jesus.
And all this is for You, for Your glory and Your fame.
It's not about me, as if You should do things my way;
You alone are God and I surrender to Your ways.

Jesus, lover of my soul;
All consuming fire is in Your gaze.
Jesus, I want You to know
I will follow You all my days.
For no one else in history is like You,
And history itself belongs to You;
Alpha and Omega, You have loved me,
And I will share eternity with You.

CCLI Song No. 1545484; ©1995 Thankyou Music; Paul Oakley



THE WORD

Lectionary:

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalm 67

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

Psalm 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

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



Be Unto Your Name

We are a moment, You are forever,
Lord of the ages, God before time.
We are a vapor, You are eternal,
Love everlasting, reigning on high.

Chorus

Holy, holy, Lord God, Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,
Jesus, Redeemer: mighty to save.
You are the love song we'll sing forever,
Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

CCLI Song No. 2177476; ©1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Gary Sadler and Lynn DeShazo

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
And my spirit exults in God my Savior
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness
And His name will be forever exalted
For the mighty God has done great things for me
And His mercy will reach from age to age

And holy holy holy is His name
(repeat)

CCLI Song No. 14497; ©1980 Birdwing Music; John Michael Talbot

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body



How Great Thou Art (chorus)

Then sings my soul, my Savior, God to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

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Benediction

God the Father, who sent his Spirit upon his Son, bless you with the presence of his Spirit.

Jesus, who received the Spirit and manifested the Father, abide in you and make you a manifestation of His life.

And God the Spirit, who came upon Christ in the fullness of power, empower you as you go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship...— “Here [is the fourth of] five practical suggestions that will help Communion become a more powerful medium for communicating God’s saving work and our appropriation of it. 4. *Ask the people to come forward to receive the bread and wine.* Since response to Christ is an important element of communion, why not find a symbolic way to express it? In evangelical revivalism we call upon people to raise a hand, stand, walk the aisle, kneel, pray, and receive Jesus. Communion has always been a kind of response to the saving message of Jesus. Why not stand, walk the aisle, kneel, receive the bread in the hand and put it into the mouth, and lift the cup to the lips and drink? Are these not external actions that signify the internal reality of receiving Christ either for the first time or for reaffirming again and again our perpetual yes to his work for us? True, one can receive Christ without the external actions, but don’t the external actions enhance, encourage, and even help to solidify that which we do internally? (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God’s Mighty Deeds of Salvation* Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992, 97-98).

Lectionary for next week: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Isaiah 51:1-6;
Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
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.