



# Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

March 6, 2011 (Transfiguration Sunday)

*Heaven and Nature Sing! Jesus is Fully Revealed as God*

## GATHERING

The LORD is Sovereign; let the peoples tremble in awe!

**He is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake!**

The LORD is great in Zion; He is high above all peoples.

**Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God, and worship Him upon the holy mountain.**

On the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus' disciples Peter, James, and John beheld the majesty of His glory. And from the mystery of a cloud they heard a voice declaring Him to be God's Son.

**We extol the LORD our God! Let us praise His great and awesome name together, and worship in His presence, for the LORD our God is holy.**

- from Psalm 99 and Matthew 17



Transfiguration, Mosaic, Vatican, 20<sup>th</sup> Century



### *Jesus on the Mountain Peak*

Jesus on the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing.  
Let us if we dare to speak join the saints and angels praising.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu. Join the saints and angels praising.

Trembling at His feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.  
All the prophets and the law shout through them their joyful greeting.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu. Shout through them their joyful greeting.

Swift the cloud of glory came, God proclaiming in its thunder.  
Jesus as the Son by name, nations cry aloud in wonder.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu. Nations cry aloud in wonder.

Jesus is the chosen One, living hope of ev'ry nation.  
Hear and heed Him ev'ry one, sing with earth and all creation.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu. Sing with earth and all creation.

Alford/Wren

READING: 2 Peter 1:16-18  
Matthew 17:1-9  
2 Peter 1:18-21

### INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise

Exalt the Lord, our God ...  
Worship in His presence ...  
Holy is He.



Transfiguration, Cornelis Monsma, 2006



*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Of the Father's love begotten,  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the Source, the Ending, He  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent;  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore.

Public domain. Text: Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4<sup>th</sup> century; transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker. Music: Plainsong, 13<sup>th</sup> century. Arr: C. Winifred Douglas



Transfiguration, Mike Bennett, Contemp



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.**

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

*In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*

There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.

*He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.*

**There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.**

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

*He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.*

**But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

**And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.**

John 1:1-14, 18

### *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore.

Public domain. Text: Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4<sup>th</sup> century; transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker. Music: Plainsong, 13<sup>th</sup> century. Arr: C. Winifred Douglas



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

God of transfiguration, You meet us in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary moments of life. We seek You in the valleys and on the mountaintops. Yet we confess that too often our eyes are blind to Your presence, too often our ears are deaf to Your call. We speak when we should listen; we act when we should reflect. Empower us to live in your light and to walk in your ways for the sake of Him who is the light of the world, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

### *Agnus Dei*

Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
Receive our prayer.

For You alone are Lord Most High,  
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.  
We worship You, we give You thanks,  
We praise You for Your glory.

You alone are Lord Most High,  
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.  
We worship You, we give You thanks,  
We praise You for Your glory.  
Almighty God and Father. Amen.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.**

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and transformed!

**Praise be to God!**

—based on 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, NRSV

## TIME OF OFFERING

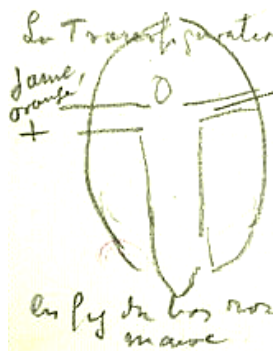
Sovereign Lord of glory, You created all that is, and with love formed us in Your image. All that we are, and all that we have, are gifts and a trust from You. In gratitude we return to You what is Yours: Your tithes and our offerings. Receive them as expressions of our worship. We want You, we need You. We live to glorify Your name.

### *Glorify Your Name*

Your presence, Your glory,  
You're welcome here.  
All honor, dominion,  
Lord, please come near.  
We want You, we need You,  
We live to glorify Your name.

### *Chorus*

Glorify Your name, glorify Your name,  
Glorify the name above all names.



The Transfiguration,  
Fra Angelico, 1355

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## THE WORD

Exodus 24:12-18  
Mathew 17:1-9  
2 Peter 1:16-21



## THE TABLE

### Remembering the Body of Christ

#### *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

#### *Jesus is Lord*

“Jesus is Lord,” the cry that echoes through creation;  
Resplendent pow’r, eternal Word, our Rock.  
The Son of God, the King, whose glory fills the heavens,  
Yet bids us come to taste this living bread.

Jesus is Lord, whose voice sustains the stars and planets;  
Yet, in His wisdom, laid aside His crown.  
Jesus, the man who washed our feet, who bore our suff’ring,  
Became a curse to bring salvation’s plan.

Jesus is Lord, the tomb is gloriously empty!  
Not even death could crush this King of love!  
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and we’re forgiven,  
And we can run into the arms of God.

“Jesus is Lord,” a shout of joy, a cry of anguish,  
As He returns, and ev’ry knee bows low.  
Then ev’ry eye and ev’ry heart will see His glory;  
The Judge of all will take His children home.

CCLI Song No.3992447; ©2003 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



## SENDING FORTH

### The Life of the Body

#### *Jesus on the Mountain Peak*

Jesus is the chosen One, living hope of ev'ry nation.  
Hear and heed Him ev'ry one, sing with earth and all creation.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu. Sing with earth and all creation.

Alford/Wren

#### Benediction:

The divine glory of the incarnate Word was revealed on that holy mountain. We, who have not seen and yet believe, rejoice with His disciples in the divine majesty of Christ.

Now, as you go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, may you shine with His transforming glory, telling His glorious story, and walk out your baptisms as people changed through the presence of the Savior of the world.

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

#### *A thought about worship...*

“The incarnation is the missing key in evangelical thought. The incarnate Word does not merely “step into history.” The Word becomes humanity, time, space, and history to rescue creatures and creation. . . . There is no story in all the universe comparable to the narrative of the biblical God who enters our suffering and death to overcome it and win back his creation. It is a story worth dying for.” (Robert E. Webber, *Who Gets to Narrate the World? Contending for the Christian Story in an Age of Rivals* [Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008], 38.)

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.