

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

May 25, 2025 (Sixth Sunday of Eastertide)

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

May God be gracious to us and bless us,

and cause His face to shine upon us —

So that His ways may be known on the earth,

His salvation among all nations.

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

for the LORD has revealed His righteousness

in the sight of the nations.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

O LORD, there is no God like You

in heaven above or on earth beneath,

keeping covenant and showing lovingkindness to Your servants

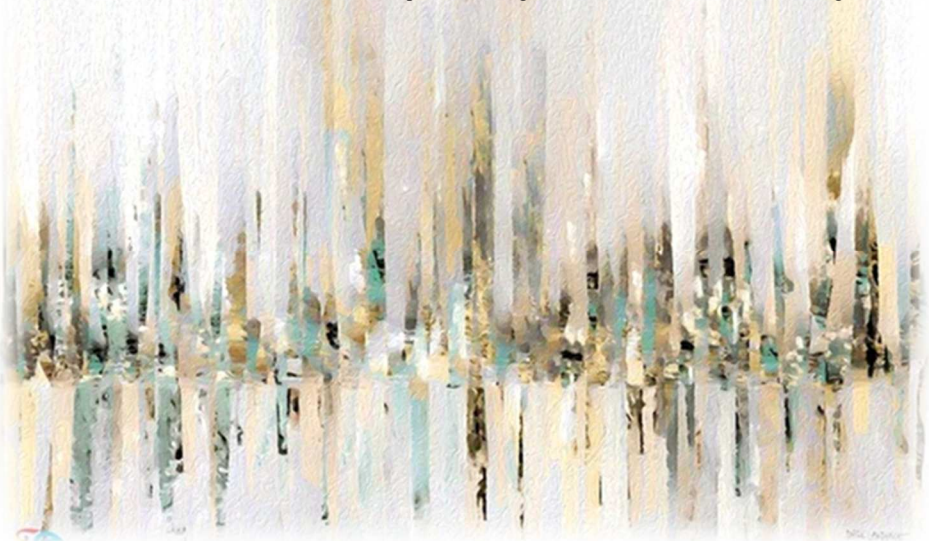
who walk before You with all their heart.

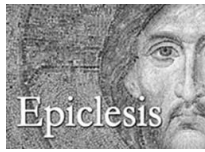
Glory in His holy name:

Let the heart of those who seek the LORD be glad.

Come, let us praise and worship our gracious God!

— Scripture weaving from Psalms 67, 86, 98, 105; 1 Kings 8:23





O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
O girded with praise.

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.
O 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.
O 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,
O worship the King.
Redeemer and Friend, He's our Redeemer and Friend,
O worship the King. Worship the King.



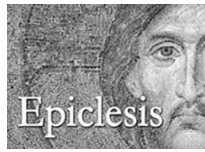
Words: Robert Grant, in *Christian Psalmody*, 1833; adapted from William Kethe, the Genevan *Psalter*, 1561. Hymn tune: LYONS, attrib. Johann M. Hadyn. Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2004

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

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.

Anon. German hymn *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677; transl. source unknown, vs 1-3;
vs 4, Joseph A. Seiss. Music *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Saints, hear and receive this testimony from the Revelation of Jesus
Christ to the Apostle John:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, ... and the holy city,
Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

Its temple is the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb.

It has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its
light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

*The nations will walk by its light; and only those whose names are
written in the Lamb's book of life may enter it.*

There will no longer be any curse; the throne of God and of the Lamb
will be in it, and His servants will worship Him.

We will see His face, and His name will be on our foreheads.

And there will be no more night; we will need no light of lamp or sun,
for the Lord God will be our light, and we will reign with Him
forever and ever.

— from Revelation 21:10 – 22:5

We give thanks with joy to the Father, who has qualified us
to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

**For He has rescued us from the domain of darkness,
and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

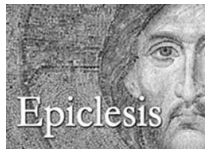
**For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and
through Him God was pleased to reconcile all things to Himself,
whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace
through the blood of His cross.**

God has made known to us the riches of the glory of this mystery:

Christ in us, the hope of glory.

— from Colossians 1:12-28

Thanks be to God!



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Pastoral call to confession

Almighty God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to reconcile the world to Yourself. He does not turn away from the shamefulness in our lives, nor abandon us in our distress and need. He seeks always to redeem us.

But too often, in our self-interest, we turn away from others who hurt us, whose actions bewilder us, or whose sorrow burdens us.

Remind us of the privileges of Your grace. O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and make us daily more like Christ, that we may truly be His body in this world, to the glory of Your Name.

[Silent confessions]

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
(repeat)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us your peace.

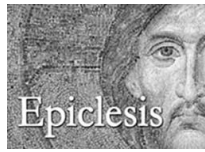
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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the Lord, the assurance of His forgiveness:

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.



As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As high as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.

The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

— from Psalm 103:8-18

Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Holy

I will lift my voice, and I will sing,
I will sing holy, holy.
To my Lord and Savior, my God and King:
I will sing holy, holy

Chorus:

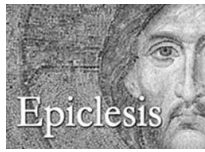
I will praise the Lamb of God
Who sits upon the throne.
I will worship Him,
And give the praise to Him alone.
He who was and is and is to come:
I will sing before His throne forever, forever.

All the angels sing, and they bow down,
And they sing holy, holy.
We, Your sons and daughters, we praise You now:
And we cry holy, holy.

Chorus

Holy, holy
Holy, holy . . .

Donnie McClurkin. ©2003 Seven Summits Music and Don Mac Music.



THE WORD

Special Guest: Christian Cazacu

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.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!



Our Father in Heaven (sung)

Our Father in heaven, Your name is holy,
Your name is holy, our Father.
Your kingdom come, and Your will be done
Here on earth as it is in heaven.

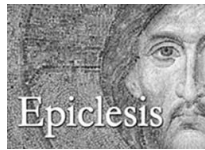
Give us, we pray, our bread for today,
Our debts forgive and in turn we will live,
Forgiving of what others owe.
Keep us from trials; save us from our ancient foe!

As we sing the kingdom, we sing the power,
We sing the glory be Yours – Forever. Amen. Amen. Amen!

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God and Man at Table are Sat Down

O, welcome all ye noble saints of old,
As now before your very eyes unfold
The wonders all so long ago foretold –
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)



Elders, martyrs, all are falling down;
Prophets, patriarchs are gath'ring 'round.
What angels longed to see now man has found:
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here;
Repentant publicans are drawing near;
Wayward sons come home without a fear:
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Who is this who spreads the vic'try feast?
Who is this who makes our warring cease?
Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace.
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Here He gives himself to us, as bread;
Here, as wine, we drink the blood He shed.
Born to die, we eat and live instead!
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Worship in the presence of the Lord,
With joyful songs and hearts in one accord;
And let our Host at Table be adored.
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

When at last this earth shall pass away,
When Jesus and His bride are one to stay,
The feast of love is just begun that day.
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

CCLI Song #16842 ©1977 Dawn Treader Music. Robert Stamps.

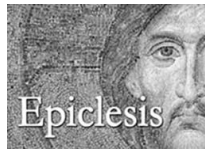
SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Benediction

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within His love.





And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:
Christ eternal, the King of kings!

CCLI Song #4506980. ©2005 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend and Keith Getty.

Benediction:

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord.

Because He has triumphed over death, and He lives and reigns—
Lord over all creation, Savior of the world, now and forever—
you also live. **Amen! Alleluia!**

Since we have been raised with Christ, let us now go forth as His
faithful witnesses, loving and serving Him in the joy and victorious
power of His resurrection. **Amen! Alleluia!**

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always
in every way. The Lord be with you all! (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Let us allow Christ to speak through us. He desires it more than we do. For He made this instrument and wouldn't want it to be useless and idle. He always wants to keep it in His hands. Why, then, don't you make it useful for the Maker's hand? ... You should keep all its parts completely stretched, well strung, and reinforced with spiritual salt. For if Christ sees your soul tuned this way, He will make His music through it. When this has taken place, you will see angels leaping for joy (archangels and the cherubim too). So then, let us become worthy of His spotless hands.... Considering that He runs to those who haven't become their best yet, when He sees one completely equipped, what won't He do? If Christ makes music and the Spirit rests on us, we will be better than heaven. Although we won't have the sun and the moon adorning our body, the Lord of the sun, moon, and angels will be dwelling and walking in us.”
– Chrysostom

Image credits – p. 1: Mark Lawrence, *The Holy City, contemp.*; p. 2: El Greco, *Pantocrator Christ*, c. 1600 (Pantocrator means “All-Powerful”); p. 7: Freiman Stoltzfus, *Bach Hosanna*, contemp.

Lectionary for next week: Acts 1:1-11; Psalms 47 and 93; Ephesians 1:15-23;
Luke 24:44-53

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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