

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

September 15, 2024 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and their expanse declares the work of His hands.

**Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night reveals knowledge.**

They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.

**Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the earth.**

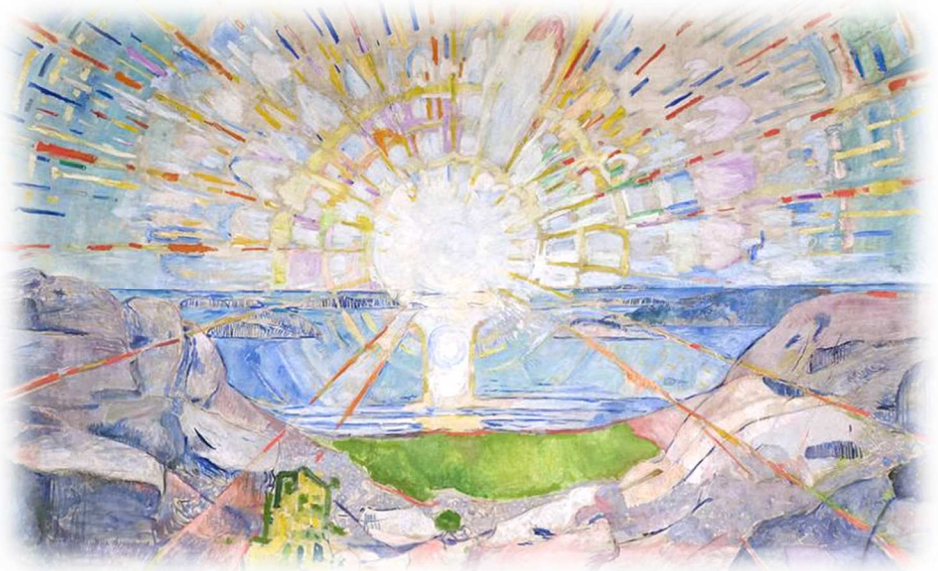
In the heavens He has placed a tent for the sun,  
which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;  
it rejoices as a strong man to run his course.

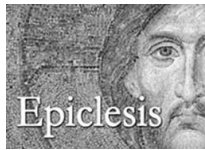
**Its rising is from one end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the other end of them;  
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets,  
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

**Praised and blessed be the name of the LORD  
from this time forth and forevermore!**

—Psalms 19:1-6; 113:1-3





*Creation Sings the Father's Song*

Creation sings the Father's song;  
He calls the sun to wake the dawn  
And run the course of day,  
Till evening falls in crimson rays.  
His fingerprints in flakes of snow;  
His breath upon this spinning globe;  
He charts the eagle's flight,  
Commands the newborn baby's cry.

*Refrain:*

Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:  
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship,  
Tell the wonders of creation's King.

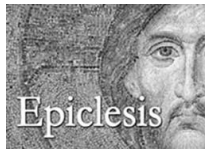
Creation gazed upon His face;  
The ageless One in time's embrace,  
Unveiled the Father's plan  
Of reconciling God and man.  
A second Adam walked the earth,  
Whose blameless life would break the curse,  
Whose death would set us free  
To live with Him eternally.

Creation longs for His return,  
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;  
The bitter wars that rage  
Are birth pains of a coming age.  
When He renews the land and sky,  
All heav'n will sing and earth reply  
With one resplendent theme:  
The glory of our God and King!

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



*All Creatures of Our God and King (verse 5)*

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness;  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son;  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225. Transl. William H. Draper, 1919.  
Hymn tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.*

**Through Him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried.*

**The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.**

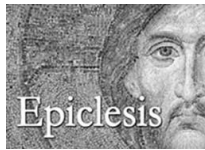
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
*He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.*

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.**

He proceeds from the Father, and with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.  
*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

– Nicene Creed



## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

How blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the LORD.

How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,  
who seek Him with all their heart.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul.

*The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart.

*The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever.

*The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.*

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*By them Your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.*

– Psalm 119:1-2, 19:7-11

But who can discern their own errors?

**Cleanse me from hidden faults. Keep back Your servant  
from willful sins. Do not let them rule over me.**

**Then I will be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

[Silent confessions]

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be pleasing to You, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

– Psalm 19:12-14

*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

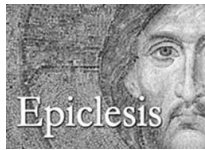
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,  
When I call answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,  
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;  
All my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise;  
God, the well-spring of life.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my supplications.  
**Because He inclined His ear unto me, therefore I shall call upon  
Him as long as I live. Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.**

Return to your rest, O my soul,  
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.  
**He has delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears,  
our feet from stumbling. We will walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.**

– from Psalm 116:1-9

## *Passing of the Peace*

## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

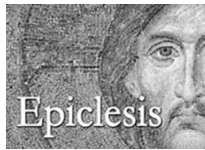
## *Speak the Word*

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;  
The eternal, infallible word.  
Speak the truth to me; let it set me free.  
Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;  
The eternal, divine, holy word.  
Let it calm my soul, shape and make me whole – Speak the word.

## *Chorus:*

I will hide it in my heart, cherish every part;  
Let it heal, renew; cleanse me through and through.  
I will make it my delight, living by its light.  
My faith, I know, will rise  
In these words so rich and wise. Speak the word.

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;  
The eternal, infallible word.  
Let its power rise to dispel all lies.  
Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;  
The eternal, divine, holy word.  
Let it light my path, as each promise stands – Speak the word.



## THE WORD

James 3:1-12, 17-18

## 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.**

*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 us our debts**

**As we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

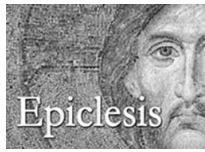
**But deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom,**

**And the power, and the glory,**

**Forever. Amen.**





*My Lips Will Praise You*

My lips will praise You,  
For You are holy.  
My voice will ever rise before Your throne.  
My heart will love You,  
For You are lovely,  
And You have called me  
To become Your own.

I am Your own,  
And I will worship You alone.  
I am Your own, I am Your child.  
I am Your own,  
And I will worship at Your throne.  
I am Your own, and I will love You.

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SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body

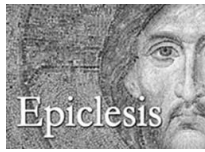
*Benediction*

May the Lord bless us and keep us.  
May the Lord smile on us, shine His light upon us.  
May the Lord lift us, turn His face towards us,  
Give us His peace, give us His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today,  
And blessed now, we will go.  
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.

Go now in peace; go now in peace.

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Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin



Benediction:

The keeping of God and the Lord on you;  
the keeping of Christ always on you;  
the keeping of the life-giving Spirit, everlasting, be yours.

**Amen!**

And may Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit –  
bless you now and forever, as you go forth into the world  
to love and serve the Lord,  
manifesting His goodness faithfully in the world around you.

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

***A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –***

“Let us discipline our tongues to administer the Spirit's grace and rid our mouths of all bitterness, malice, and disgraceful words. For we have the power to make each part of us instruments of wickedness or righteousness. Hear how some people make the tongue an instrument of sin and others of righteousness! It is written about some, ‘Their tongue is a sharp sword.’ But about another, ‘My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.’ The former brought about destruction; the latter wrote God's law. Therefore, one was a sword and the other a pen not by nature, but by the choice of those who used it. . . . We see the same thing with the mouth. Those with mouths full of filth and wickedness were accused, ‘Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.’ But this wasn't the case with another: ‘My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.’ . . . So then, knowing these things, let us fortify ourselves on all sides with holiness to ward off God's wrath. Let us make the members of our body instruments of righteousness. Let us discipline our eyes, mouths, hands, feet, hearts, tongues, and entire bodies to be used only in holiness.”

– Chrysostom

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***Lectionary for next week:*** Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1;  
Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22;  
Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54;  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

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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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