

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

June 2, 2019 (Seventh Sunday of Easter)

Ascension of the Lord

GATHERING

The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty
and girded with strength.

His throne is established from of old;

He is from everlasting.

O clap your hands, all peoples;
Shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the LORD Most High is awesome,
a great King over all the earth.**

He sits on His holy throne.

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God; sing His praises!

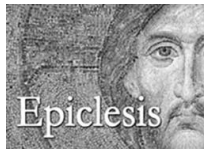
We sing praises to our King! We will shout His praises!

For majestic on high is the LORD!

— from Psalms 47 and 93



Ascension of the Lord, Giotto, 1304-1306



All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall, let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown* Him.
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
And crown* Him Lord of all!

Music: James Ellor, 1838; Words: Edward Perronet, 1779; last verse: John Rippon, 1787
Hymn tune: DIADEM

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord;
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You;
I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love,
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy;
Holy, holy, holy;
Holy, holy, holy;
We want to see You.

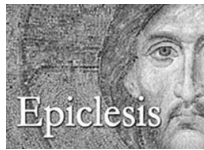
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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

A hymn of glory let us sing;
New* songs throughout the world shall ring.
Christ*, by a road* be*fore untrod*
Ascen* deth* to the throne of God.



O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All* praise to Thee let earth accord.
Who* art, while end*less* ages run*,
With Father and* with* Spirit One.

O grant us thitherward to tend,
And* with unwearied hearts ascend,
Un*to Thy king*dom's* throne, where Thou*
As is our faith*, art* seated now.

Words: The Venerable Bede (673-735), *Hymnum canamus Domino*; translated from Latin to English by Benjamin Webb, 1854. Hymn tune: JAM LUCIS ORTO SIDERE, 15th cent. Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: 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 would be holy and blameless before Him;

*In love, He predestined us to adoption as His children,
in accordance with His pleasure and His will;*

In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our sins, according to His grace;

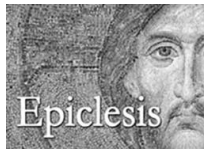
*He has made known to us the mystery of His will,
to bring all things in heaven and on earth into unity in Christ;*

Having believed in Him,
we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,
the guarantee of our inheritance in Him,
to the praise of His glory.

*In the exceeding greatness of His power,
He raised Christ from the dead
and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all principality and power and might and dominion,
and above every name that is named,
not only in this age but also in the age to come.*

**He has put all things in subjection under His feet,
and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

– from Ephesians 1:3-23



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

God demonstrated His own love for us in this:

While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us therefore come boldly before the throne of grace,

that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

– Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16

Almighty God, You have raised Jesus from death to life, and have seated Him at Your right hand in the heavenly places that He might fill all things. Yet, we confess that we have not always bowed before Him, and have not always acknowledged His rule. We have not always followed His leading, and have failed to glorify Him in our lives.

[Silence]

Forgive us, we pray. In Your grace, raise us from sin that we may walk faithfully in Your ways and delight in Your will, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;

Have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;

Have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;

Grant us peace, Grant us peace.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

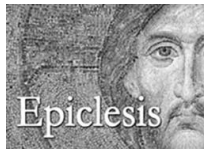
This is the good news of our pardon in His grace:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love for us, even when we were dead in our sins and transgressions, made us alive together with Christ – By grace we have been saved –

And He raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

– Ephesians 2:4-7

Thanks be to God!



TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

What A Beautiful Name

You were the Word at the beginning,
One with God, the Lord Most High.
Your hidden glory in creation,
Now revealed in You, our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

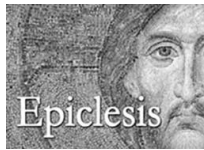
You didn't want heaven without us,
So, Jesus, You brought heaven down.
My sin was great; Your love was greater.
What could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a wonderful Name it is; nothing compares to this:
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You.
You silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory,
For You are raised to life again.

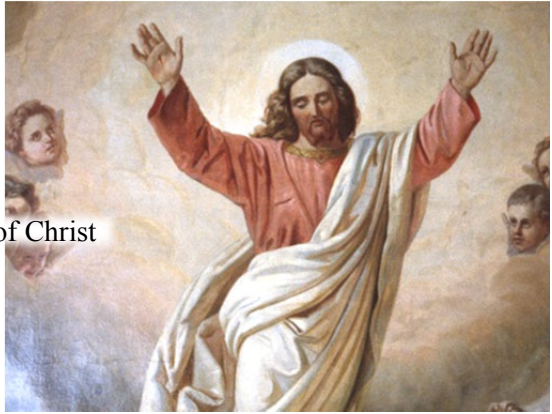
You have no rival, You have no equal;
Now and forever, God, You reign.
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory;
Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a powerful Name it is; nothing can stand against;
What a powerful Name it is: the Name of Jesus.



THE WORD

Acts 1:1-11
Luke 24:44-53



THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Passing of the Peace

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.

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the Throne of God above

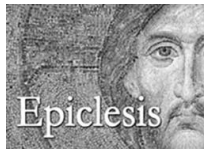
I have a strong and perfect plea,

A great High Priest whose Name is Love,

Who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands;

My name is written on His heart.



I know that while in Heav'n He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart;
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Before Him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am,
The King of glory and of grace:
One with Himself I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His Blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God;
With Christ my Savior and my God.

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft (1863). Music: Vikki Cook. ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship.
CCLI Song #2306412. This setting: Ellen Koehler ©2014.

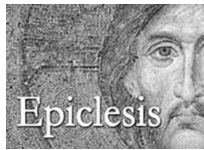
King of Wisdom and Light

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might:
Heaven is filled with Your glory, King of wisdom and light.

We worship You, We praise You:
God Most High;
We worship You, We praise You,
King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

CCLI Song #2514352 ©1998 International Liturgy Publications; Jim Cowan.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall, we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown* Him.
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, and crown* Him Lord of all!

Benediction:

Jesus Christ, this man who is God, participated in our humanity to die for us and to be resurrected for us, and He now has ascended to the very throne of God to continually represent us to the Father.

Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.

We have a High Priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,

And who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man.

He who did everything that ever needed to be done to save us now continually stands before the Father interceding for us!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Adapted from Hebrews 7 and 8, and Robert Webber, Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004)

A thought about worship... “The early church fathers saw the ascension of the Lord as the lifting up of the human nature of Jesus to the throne of God. The eternal Word was united to a perfect human nature in Jesus. Because Jesus participated in our human nature (without sin) and because through faith we are united with Jesus, our human but redeemed nature, united with Jesus, is lifted to the very throne of God. Leo the Great, an early church father, puts this profound truth this way: ‘For on this day not only have we been confirmed in our possession of paradise, but we have entered heaven in the person of Christ; through his ineffable grace we have regained far more than we had lost through the devil’s hatred.’” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 159.)

Lectionary for next week: Acts 2:1-21; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; John 16:4b-15

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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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