

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

February 2, 2020 (Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany)

GATHERING

The earth is the LORD's, and all it contains,
the world, and all who dwell in it.

He has established His faithfulness in the heavens!

I will sing of the LORD's great covenant love forever.

The heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD;
Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.

For who in the heavens or on earth can be compared to the LORD?

Righteousness and justice are the foundations of His throne.

Lovingkindness and truth are before His face.

Blessed are those who know the joyful sound!

They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your presence.

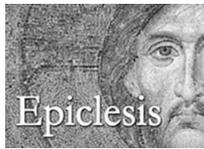
**In Your name we rejoice all day long, and celebrate Your
righteousness, for You are our glory and strength.**

– from Psalm 24 and 89

The LORD has shown forth His glory.

Come, let us joyfully lift His praises.





Sing to the Lord

Eternal, Immortal God of all glory,
Fearful in wonders and worthy of praise;
The Alpha, Omega, Lord God Almighty,
Wonderful, Beautiful, Ancient of Days.

Chorus

And I sing praise,
I give You my heart,
I sing praise,
I give You my all,
I sing praise –
Sing to the Lord.

Redeemer, Messiah, Rock of the ages,
A help in trouble, a tower of strength;
Emmanuel, Jehovah, God of Creation,
Wonderful, Beautiful, King of all kings.

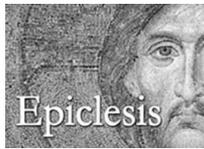
Bridge

God of compassion and
God of all gladness and
Your tender mercies are new every morning, and
God of compassion and
God of all gladness and
You dance around me,
You dance around me.

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



Bow Down

Bow down before the Lord; worship Him, O worship Him.
Bow down before our God; enter in, O enter in.
Consuming fire and sweet perfume,
His awesome presence fills this room.
This is holy ground, this is holy ground,
This is holy ground, so come and bow down.

CCLI Song #1222013 ©1993 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. David Baroni, Tony Sutherland
(As sung by Paul Morton) CCLI License #3097801

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the cleverness of the clever I will set aside."

*For since, in the wisdom of God,
the world through its wisdom did not know Him,
God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached
to save those who believe.*

**We proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise;

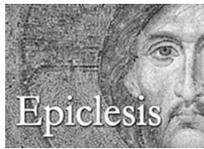
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not,
to reduce to nothing things that are,

So that no one might boast in the presence of God.

**He is the source of our life in Christ Jesus,
who became for us wisdom from God –
that is, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption –
in order that, as it is written,
"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."**

– from 1 Corinthians 1:18-31



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old, with sacrifices for my transgressions and the sin of my soul?

God has told you what is good.

*And what does the LORD require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

– from Micah 6:6-8

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD,
and who may stand in His holy place?

*Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
whose walk is blameless, who do what is righteous.*

[Silence]

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

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Who may ascend the hill of the LORD,
and who may stand in His holy place?

*Those who speak the truth from their hearts,
who do no wrong to a neighbor,
and who honor those who fear the LORD.*

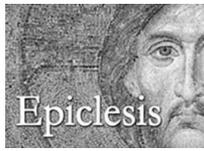
[Silence]

The Jesus Prayer (sung)

*They shall receive a blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation;
they will never be shaken.*

This is the generation of those who seek Him,
of those who seek Your face, O God.

– from Psalms 15 and 24



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen, beloved, to this wonderful assurance of pardon;
God's own words, handed down by faithful hands through the ages,
trustworthy and true:

Blessed are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

– from Psalm 32:1-2

**The LORD has been mindful of us; He will bless us.
He will bless those who fear the LORD,
the small together with the great.**

– Psalm 115:12-13

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Wonderful Words of Life

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty.

Refrain:

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

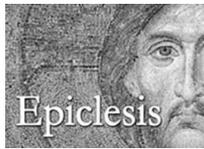
Christ, the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life.
All so freely given, wooing us to heaven.

Refrain

Sweetly echo the Gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify us forever.

Refrain

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Words and tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1874.



THE WORD

Matthew 5:1-12
Romans 12



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!

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.

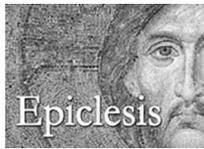
Give us, we pray, our bread for today,
Our debts forgive and in turn we will live,
Forgiving of what others owe.
Keep us from trials; save us from our ancient foe!

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

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Trust and Obey

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.



Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows, for the joy he bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet.
Or we'll walk by His side in the way.
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go;
Never fear, only trust and obey.

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2019. Words: John H. Sammis, 1887; Music: Daniel B. Towner.

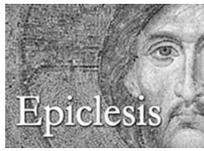
SENDING FORTH

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.

CCLI Song #7000703 ©2013 Atlas Mountain Songs | Said and Done Music | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin

Benediction:

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that Your people, illumined by Your word and Table, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory. **Amen.**

And as we go forth, in faith and joy, to love and serve the Lord, may He grant that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“If some students can't learn through more difficult subjects, a kind, caring teacher will come on to their level and teach them by simpler means. Christ, the Word of God, did this. Paul said, ‘For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God, it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the word preached to save them that believe.’ Christ saw that people wouldn't think about God. Instead, with downcast eyes, they sought the knowledge of God in nature and in the sensory world. They imagined that mortal humans and demons were their gods. Therefore, the loving Savior of all, the Word of God, took on a body and walked among people like a human being. He met the mental capacity of all people halfway. That is to say, those who think God is physical can see the truth and recognize the Father through the Lord's physical works. Therefore, the people were drawn to Christ through whatever objects they fixed their minds on and learned the truth from all angles.”

– Athanasius

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

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Text the word **Connect** to (916)347-5038 to join our text alert list.

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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