

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

April 5, 2020 (Sixth Sunday in Lent: Palm Sunday)

GATHERING

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good:  
for His steadfast love endures forever.

Let His people now say:

**His steadfast love endures forever!**

Let those who fear the LORD say:

**His steadfast love endures forever!**

**Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.**

This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

**I thank You that You have answered me  
and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

**This is the LORD'S doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**Save us, O LORD! Hosanna!**

**O LORD, we beseech You, give us success!**

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

**We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

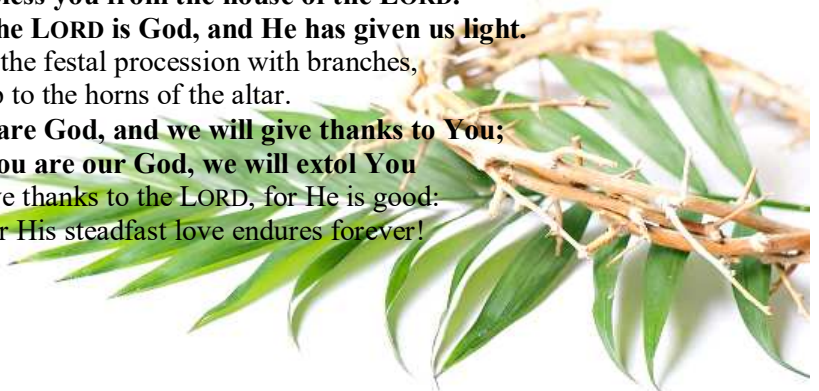
**The LORD is God, and He has given us light.**

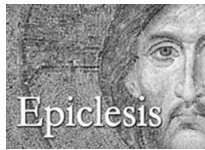
Bind the festal procession with branches,  
up to the horns of the altar.

**You are God, and we will give thanks to You;**

**You are our God, we will extol You**

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good:  
for His steadfast love endures forever!





*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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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

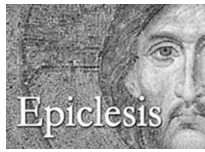
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

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Text: Thomas O. Chisholm | Music: William M. Runyan



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

The word of the Lord:

God, who at various times and in various ways  
spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,  
has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,  
whom He appointed heir of all things,  
through whom also He made the world,  
and who is the radiance of His glory  
and the exact representation of His nature.

*When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
born a descendant of David according to the flesh;  
born of a woman, born under the Law,  
in the likeness of sinful flesh, to be an offering for our sin;  
so that He might redeem us,  
that we might receive adoption as His children.*

**God also highly exalted Him**

**and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

— from Hebrews 1:1-3; Romans 1:3,8:3-4; Galatians 4:3-4, Philippians 2:9-11

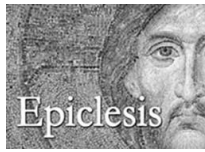
## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Righteous God of all time, You have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. Like Your people of old, we gladly praise Him with shouts of "Hosanna!" Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him, nor follow Him with our whole hearts.

[Silence]

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Help us to lay at Your feet all that we have and all that we are,  
trusting You to forgive and cleanse what is sinful, to heal what is  
broken, and to receive us as Your own.**



[Silent confessions]

**Draw us near the foot of the cross, so that, dying and rising with Him, we may walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

*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

Hear the word of the Lord from Psalm 118.  
This is God's promise of pardon and love:

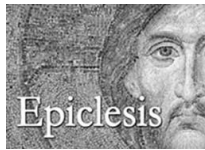
Let those who fear the LORD say,

“His steadfast love endures forever.”

**Out of my distress I called upon the LORD;  
I sought the LORD and He answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.  
The LORD is my strength and my song;  
He has become my salvation.  
I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and declare the deeds of the LORD.**

– from Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

**Thanks be to God!**



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Testimonies and sharing . . .

Jesus said, "If these people were to keep silent,  
the stones would immediately cry out!"

**Lord, we lift our voices in praise to You! May our lives and our offerings resound as worship and reflections of Your love.**

## THE WORD

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Behold, your King is coming to you;

**He is just and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

– Zechariah 9:9

*When they had come near to Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, He sent ahead two of His disciples.*

He said, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this: 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."

*This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."*

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.

*They brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and He sat on them.*

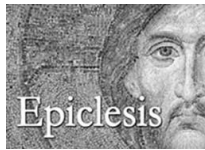
A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

*The crowds that went ahead of Him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"*

When He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

*The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."*

– Matthew 21:1-11



## 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,**

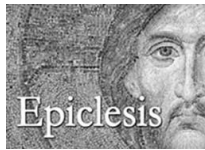
**But deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**Forever. Amen**

### *Blessing*

I bless you, [NAME], today at the beginning of this, your Holy Week journey: that God the Father will draw you more deeply into the adoration and worship of His Son; that like our brother Jesus, in these last days of Lent your journey may be one from death to life; and that the Holy Spirit will empower you to remain strong and faithful until the end. Bless you, my brother/sister.



*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."

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.

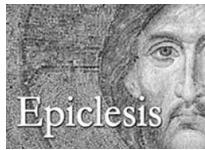
All the angels sing,  
And they bow down,  
And they sing, "Holy, holy."  
We, Your sons and daughters,  
We praise You now:  
And we cry, "Holy, holy."

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 song before His throne forever, forever.

Holy, holy  
Holy, holy . . .

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

SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body



## Benediction

Now brothers and sisters, as you go forth into the world to live out your baptisms, may your beliefs shape your response as you remember that He has given you words of wisdom, He has spoken to you, and He is helping you on your Lenten journey from death to life.

**Amen.**

As we journey with Him in this week of remembrance and hope, let us take on His likeness, for the honor of His holy name, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

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

“We should not look on Palm Sunday simply as a day to recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is that, but it is more. It is our own entry into the most solemn yet the most glorious experience of spirituality. For Jesus, Palm Sunday was his gateway to the culminating events of his earthly life. As we enter that gate with him, our spiritual lives are being ordered into the most sacred moments of the history of the world and of our own experience with the meaning of human existence.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality Through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 116-117.)

***Lectionary for next week:*** Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25;

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26;

John 20:1-18; Luke 24:1-12; Colossians 2:9-15

Readings for each day of Holy Week can be found at The Revised Common Lectionary: (<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>)

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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