

An Ancient-Future Faith Community
Liturgy
March 15, 2020 (Third Sunday in Lent)

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord;
We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, You reign forever; our hope, our Strong Deliverer.

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God;
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak, You comfort those in need,
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

CCLI Song # 4556538 ©2005 Thankyou Music; Brenton Brown and Ken Riley

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the eternal God.

He is the source of love and life, who creates and sustains us.

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

How blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD!

On God rests my salvation and my glory;

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress.

**Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth be moved, and
though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains
tremble at its tumult. The LORD of hosts is with us, the God of
Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come and behold the works of the LORD,
what awesome things he has done on the earth.

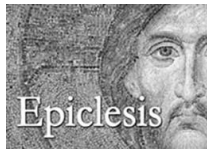
*In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the hills are His also.*

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

**If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, then the waters
would have engulfed us, the raging waters would have swept
over our soul.**

This is what the LORD, our God, says: "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Amen! Blessed be the LORD!



Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)

O come, behold the works of God, the nations at His feet.
He breaks the bow and bends the spear and tells the wars to cease.
O Mighty One of Israel, You are on our side.
We walk by faith in God who burns the chariots with fire.

Chorus:

Lord of hosts, You're with us, with us in the fire,
With us as a Shelter, with us in the storm.
You will lead us through the fiercest battle,
Oh, where else would we go but with the Lord of hosts.

O God of Jacob, fierce and great, You lift Your voice to speak.
The earth, it bows and all the mountains move into the sea.
O Lord, You know the hearts of men, and still You let them live.
O God who makes the mountains melt, come wrestle us and win.
O God who makes the mountains melt, come wrestle us and win.

Chorus

Bridge:

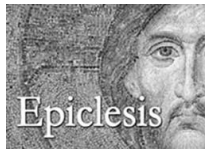
Though oceans roar, You are the Lord of all,
The One who calms the wind and waves and makes my heart be still.
Though the earth gives way, the mountains move into the sea,
The nations rage, I know my God is in control.

Chorus

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PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

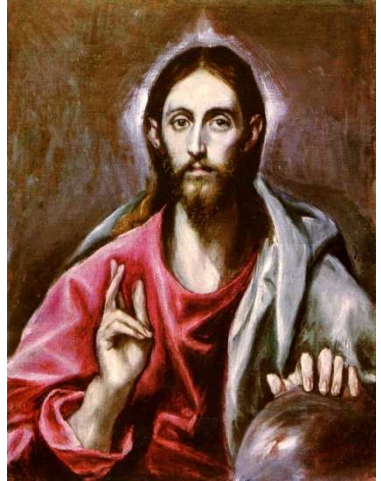
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit



Of the Father's Love Begotten

Christ, to Thee with God the Fa*-ther,
And, O Holy Ghost*, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thankgiv*-ing,
And unwearied prai*-ses be:
Honor, glory, and domin*-ion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore*.
A*-men.

Text: Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th century;
transl. by John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker.
Music: Plainsong, 13th century.
Arr: Ellen Koehler. ©2013.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together confess the faith of the church of all ages
in this response to the first question of the *Heidelberg Catechism*:

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

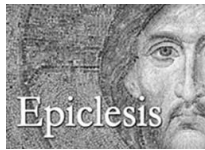
**My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own,
but belong – body and soul, in life and in death –
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven:
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for Him.**

– from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from Him comes my salvation.
He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;

I shall not be greatly shaken.

My soul, wait in silence for God alone, for my hope is from Him.
On God rests my salvation and my glory;

He is the rock of my strength, and my refuge.

Trust in Him at all times, O His people
pour out your heart before Him, for He is our refuge.

- from Psalm 62:1-8

[Silence]

We Confess

Almighty God, we confess our sin;
What we have done, what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with a whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy.

Most gracious God, we have lost our way.
Like wand'ring sheep, we have gone astray.
We're truly sorry, and we turn back
Now, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Have mercy, have mercy on us. Have mercy, have mercy on us.
Have mercy, have mercy.

CCLI Song #6476506 ©2013 Integrity Worship Music. Glenn Packiam and Ian Morgan Cron.

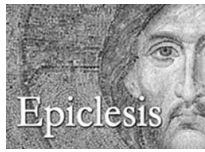
[Silence]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Bless the Lord (Refrain)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

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Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His benefits –

Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Refrain

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far He has removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

Just as a father has compassion for His children,
so the LORD has compassion on 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.

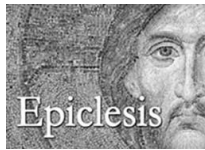
– from Psalm 103:8-18

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and expressions of devotion and thanksgiving. . .

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's a light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!



Chorus:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion –
For more than conquerors we are!

His Word shall not fail you – He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

Public domain. Text and music by Helen H. Lemmel, 1922.

THE WORD

Christian Living in the Time of Corona

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

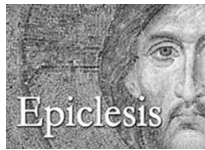
Passing of the Peace

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.**

The Lord Is My Salvation

The grace of God has reached for me,
And pulled me from the raging sea.
And I am safe on this solid ground: the Lord is my salvation.

I will not fear when darkness falls,
His strength will help me scale these walls.
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun: the Lord is my salvation.

Chorus:

Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won: the Lord is my salvation.

My hope is hidden in the Lord,
He flowers each promise of His Word.
When winter fades, I know spring will come:
The Lord is my salvation.

In times of waiting, times of need,
When I know loss, when I am weak,
I know His grace will renew these days: the Lord is my salvation.

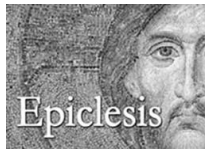
Chorus

And when I reach the final day, He will not leave me in the grave.
But I will rise, He will call me home: the Lord is my salvation.

Chorus

Glory be to God, the Father; glory be to God, the Son;
Glory be to God, the Spirit: the Lord is our salvation.
The Lord is our salvation; the Lord is our salvation.

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Sweater Weather Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockels, Jonas Myrin.



SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Benediction:

Now brothers and sisters, as you go forth into the world to live out your baptisms, do so remembering that God is our Refuge and Fortress; He is our salvation. It is He who saves, sustains, enables, and encourages us. **Amen.**

Now may the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance, as you walk in Christ's own footsteps, taking on His likeness, in this journey of Lent from death to life.

We remember, and we go with grateful hearts into the world to love and serve the Lord. Amen. Thanks be to God!

Image, p. 3: *Pantocrator Christ*. El Greco, c. 1600. Pantocrator means "Ruler of All."

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“‘We must be persuaded how much God loved us and what type of people we were whom he loved.’ We must be persuaded how much God loved us so that we don't shrink from Him in despair. And we need to be shown also what kind of people we are whom He loved so that we also don't withdraw from Him out of pride. But He dealt with us so that we could profit from His strength, and, in the weakness of humility, our holiness could be perfected. One of the Psalms implies this. It says, ‘Thou, O God, didst send a spontaneous rain, whereby Thou didst make Thine inheritance perfect, when it was weary.’ The ‘spontaneous rain’ is grace given freely and not according to merit. He didn't give it because we were worthy, but because He willed. Knowing this, we shouldn't trust in ourselves. That is what is meant by being made ‘weak.’ However, He perfects us and says to the Apostle Paul, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.’ We, then, must be persuaded how much God loved us and what type of people we were whom He loved. The former is important, lest we despair; the latter, lest we become proud.”

– Augustine

Lectionary for next week: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

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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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