

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

September 6, 2020 (Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the faithful.

**Let Israel be glad in their Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

Let them praise His name with dancing,
let them make melody to Him with instruments and song!

**For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
He adorns the humble with victory.**

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy and be glad!

My heart is steadfast, O God!

I will sing and make melody with all my being!

I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to You among the nations.

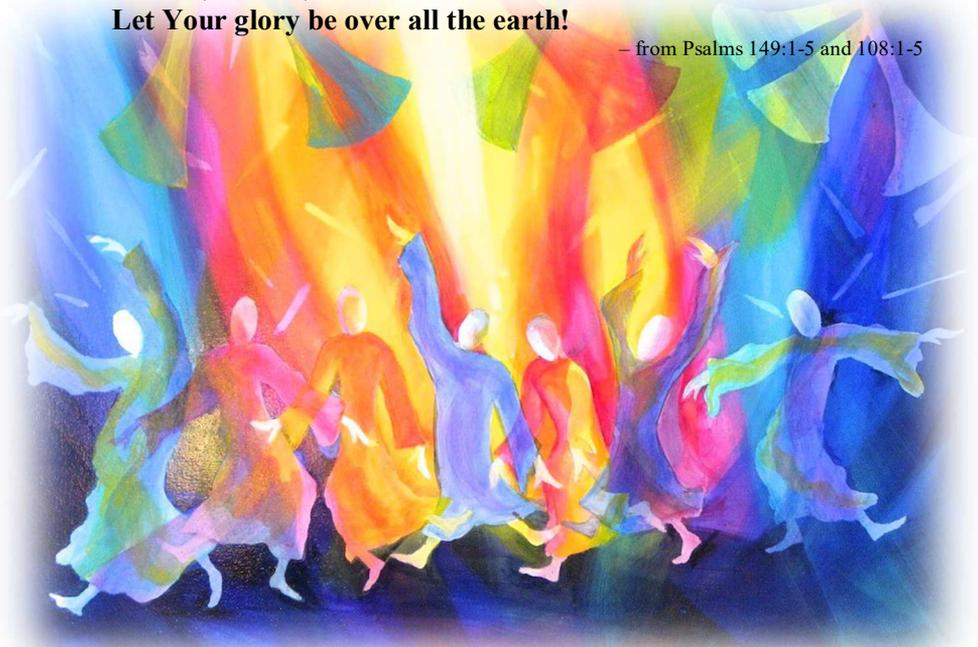
For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens;

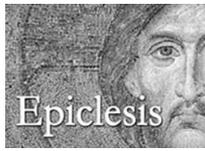
Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!

Let Your glory be over all the earth!

— from Psalms 149:1-5 and 108:1-5





Joyful, Joyful

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,
Opening to the sun above.
(Repeat)

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Chorus

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,
Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
Joyful, we adore You!

All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your ways;
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;

Chorus

Bridge

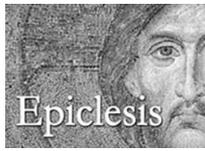
God our Father, Christ our Brother;
All who live in love are Thine.
Teach us how to love each other;
Lift us to the joy divine.

Chorus 2

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,
Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,

Bridge

CCLI Song #5574629. Original words: Henry J. van Dyke, 1907; Hymn tune: HYMN TO JOY, from the Ninth Symphony of Ludwig van Beethoven, adapted by Edward Hodges, 1824. Setting ©2009 My Refuge Music | BanaHama Tunes | Be Essential Songs | Curb Word Music. Mark Hall, Bernie Herms. CCLI License #3097801



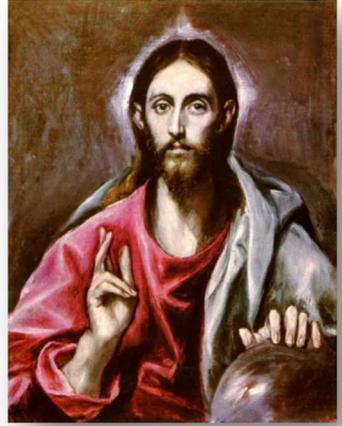
PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages in these words from the epistles of the Apostle Paul:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which
He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions,
*He made us alive together with Christ –
for by grace we were saved.*

**We were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified
in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.**

When the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior appeared,
He saved us –

*Not because of any works of righteousness that we had done,
but according to His mercy, through the washing of regeneration
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

**This Spirit He poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
so that, having been justified by His grace,
we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

This is a trustworthy statement.

– Ephesians 2:4-5, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Titus 3:4-8a

Thanks be to God!



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

What does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the LORD'S commandments and statutes?

*So owe nothing to anyone except to love one another;
for those who love their neighbors have fulfilled the law.*

For all of the commandments are summed up in this word,
"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

*Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.*

And this do, knowing that it is already the time for us to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

The night is almost gone; the day is near.

Let us therefore lay aside the works of darkness
and put on the armor of light.

– Deuteronomy 10:12-13, Romans 13:8-12

[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

The word of the Lord:

Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

Walk as children of light, learning what is pleasing to the Lord.

If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.

– Ephesians 5:8,10; 1 John 1:7

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise of God's faithfulness

You Are the Light

We are the people of God,
The sons and the daughters of love.
Forgiven, restored and redeemed,
We're living our lives to the praise of our King.

We are the ones who will shine
His light in the darkness of night.
The hopeless, the broken, the poor,
They will be hopeless and broken no more.

Chorus

You are the light, the light of the world, and we shine You, Lord.
You are the light, the light of the world, and we shine You, Lord.

Bridge

We shine like stars in the universe,
Proclaiming the hope of our God.
To the sons and daughters in all the earth,
We shine You, Lord.

To the lost and the broken, the hurting and hopeless,
We shine You, Lord.
To the ones who are weary, the burdened and the suffering,
We shine You, Lord.

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THE WORD

Matthew 18:15-20

Psalm 119:33-40

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.



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

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.

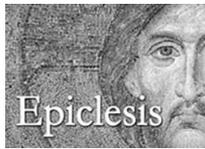
Give us this day our daily bread,

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.



How Beautiful

How beautiful the hands that served
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth;
How beautiful the feet that walked
The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.

Chorus:

How beautiful, how beautiful,
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead.
How beautiful the tender eyes
That chose to forgive and never despise.

Bridge

And as He laid down His life
We offer this sacrifice:
That we will live just as He died,
Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant Bride
Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.
How beautiful when humble hearts give
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live.

How beautiful the feet that bring
The sound of good news and the love of the King.
How beautiful the hands that serve
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Benediction

Now, beloved, let us pray this together,
as we prepare to leave this place:

May the love of God enfold us.

May the grace of God uphold us.

May the power of God enable us

as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord.

Now to God, who by the means of the power working in us
is able to do so much more than we can ask or even think,
to God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all times,
for ever and ever.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“He who is both the Lord and most indulgent Parent promises that He will forgive the sins of the repentant. He will blot out all the iniquities of those who begin afresh practicing righteousness. For former uprightness is no use to those who live badly. The subsequent wickedness has destroyed their righteous works. In the same way, former sins don't stand in the way of those who have corrected their lives because the subsequent righteousness has erased the stain of their former lives. Those who repent of what they have done understand their former errors. Regarding this, the Greeks speak better and more significantly of metanoia, which we may speak of as a return to right understanding. Those who return to a right understanding and rescue their minds from madness, who grieve over their errors and rebuke themselves for madness, and commit their minds to a better course of life are guarded against being led into the same snares again. In short, even when dumb animals are ensnared by trickery but have untangled themselves and escaped, they become more cautious in the future. They will always avoid the things in which they have seen tricks, wiles, and snares. Therefore, repentance makes us cautious and diligent to avoid the faults which we once were tricked into.” – Lactantius

Image credits. p. 1: Lucy Adams, “Praise the Lord with Trumpet,” contemp, lucyadamsart.com;
p. 3: El Greco, *Pantocrator Christ*, c. 1600. Pantocrator means “Ruler of All.”

Lectionary for next week: Exodus 14:19-31, 15:1b-11, 20-21; Psalm 114;
Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12;
Matthew 18:21-35

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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