

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

*Liturgy*

September 13, 2020 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Lord, open our lips,  
and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be ages unto ages.  
Amen.**

Who is like You, O LORD –  
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

**The LORD is my strength and song;  
He has become my salvation.  
The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.**

Who is like You, O LORD –  
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

**Your faithfulness surrounds You;  
Your steadfast love is established forever!**

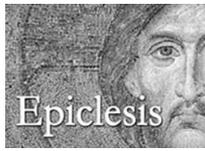
The heavens are Yours, the earth also;  
The world and all it contains, You founded them.

**You sustain the living, and give life to the dead.  
You support the falling, rescue those who are bound,  
and keep Your faithfulness to all generations.**

Who is like You, O LORD –  
majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, working wonders?

**This is my God, and I will praise Him;  
this is our God; we will exalt Him.  
Blessed be His glorious name forever!**

– from Exodus 15 and Psalm 89



*10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*

*Chorus:*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
O my soul;  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before,  
O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
It's time to sing Your song again,  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me –  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

*Chorus*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger;  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing –  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*Chorus*

And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near, and my time has come;  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending –  
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore.

*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





[Silent confessions]

**Send Your spirit into my inmost being, to take possession of my soul and body. Without You I cannot be saved; with You to protect me, I long for Your salvation. And now I ask You for Your salvation. And now I ask You for wisdom; deign of Your great goodness to help and defend me. Guide my heart, almighty God, that I may remember Your presence day and night. Amen.**

– a prayer attributed to the Desert Fathers, 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> centuries

*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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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

He forgives all your iniquity,

*He heals all your diseases;*

He redeems your life from the Pit,

*He crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;*

He satisfies you with good as long as you live,  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**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 removes our transgressions from us.**

– from Psalm 103:2-12



## TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and stories of God's faithfulness

### *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne,  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,  
And our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Hymn tune: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1708.

## THE WORD

Romans 14



## 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.**

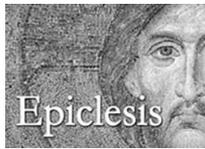
**And lead us not into temptation,**

**But deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom,**

**And the power, and the glory,**

**Forever. Amen**



*God and Man at Table are Sat Down*

O, welcome all ye noble saints of old,  
As now before your very eyes unfold  
The wonders all so long ago foretold –  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Elders, martyrs, all are falling down;  
Prophets, patriarchs are gath'ring 'round.  
What angels longed to see now man has found:  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Who is this who spreads the vic'try feast?  
Who is this who makes our warring cease?  
Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace.  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here;  
Repentant publicans are drawing near;  
Wayward sons come home without a fear:  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

Worship in the presence of the Lord,  
With joyful songs and hearts in one accord;  
Oh, let our Host at Table be adored.  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

When at last this earth shall pass away,  
When Jesus and His bride are one to stay,  
The feast of love is just begun that day.  
God and man at Table are sat down. (repeat)

CCLI Song #16842 ©1977 Dawn Treader Music. Robert Stamps.

SENDING FORTH  
The Life of the Body



Benediction:

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world and our steadfast hope:  
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 –*

“What is the ‘unity of Spirit’? In the human body there is a spirit that holds all the different parts together. It is the same here. The Spirit was given to unite those separated by race and manners. For young and old, rich and poor, children and youth, women and men, and every soul becomes more completely one than in the human body. This spiritual relationship is far greater than the other natural one and the perfection of the union is even more complete in its simplicity. How is this unity maintained? ‘In the bond of peace.’ . . . This is a glorious bond. Let us bind ourselves to one another and to God with it. For this bond won't bruise us or cramp the hands it binds. It leaves them free and gives them more room to play and greater courage than those who aren't restrained have. The strong will support the weak if they are bound to them. They won't allow the weak to perish. Also, if they are tied to the lazy, the strong will arouse and animate them. For it is said, ‘Brother helped by brother is as a strong city.’” – Chrysostom

*Image credit.* p. 1: Caspar David Friedrich, “Evening,” 1824.

*Lectionary for next week:* Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6,37-45; Jonah 3:10-4:11;  
Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

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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