

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

October 25, 2020 (Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

O LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth,
or You had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

You who seek the LORD, praise Him.

All you, His people, glorify Him and stand in awe.

**In the midst of the assembly we will praise You;
we will fulfill our vows before those who fear You.**

How blessed are those who dwell in Your house!

They are ever praising You.

**How blessed are those whose strength is in You,
in whose hearts are the highways to Zion!**

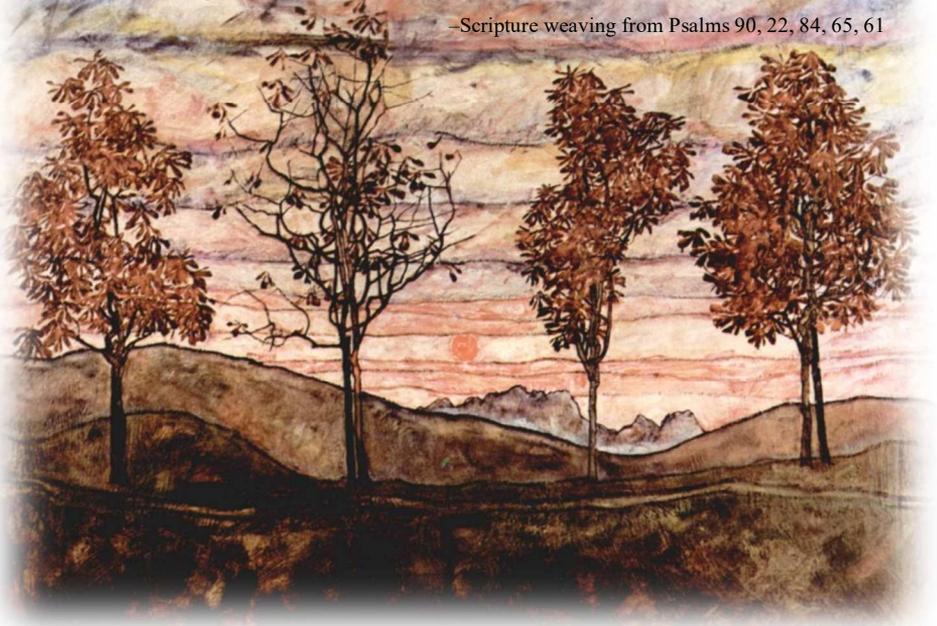
How blessed are those whom You choose and bring near to You,
to dwell in Your courts.

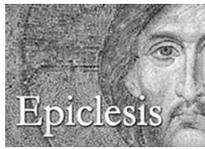
**We will abide in Your tabernacle forever;
we will trust in the shelter of Your wings.**

For You, O God, have heard our vows;

You have given us the heritage of those who fear Your name.

—Scripture weaving from Psalms 90, 22, 84, 65, 61





Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship,
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess You are God;
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly praise You now.

Chorus

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives;
Willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength
We gladly praise You now.

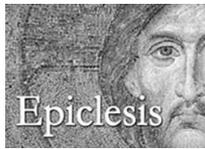
One day every tongue will confess You are God; . . .

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Come, Christians, Join to Sing (verse 2)

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend, to us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013. Words, Christian H. Bateman (*Sacred Melodies for Children*,
Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843). Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody.



PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

Sung:

Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

PROFESSION OF FAITH

To the Lord we say again:

You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

– Psalm 90:1-2 (NIV)

Beati/Psalm 1

Refrain:

Beati, in domo Domini

(Blessed are they who dwell in God's house)

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Blessed are those who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful.
*But their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and in His law they mediate day and night.*

They will be like trees firmly planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in season;
their leaves never wither, and whatever they do prospers.

Refrain

*But the wicked are not so;
they are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
For the LORD watches over the path of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.*

Refrain



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

How blessed are those who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways.

*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?*

– Psalm 128:1; Deuteronomy 10:12-13

[Silence]

Most merciful God, You have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and You have set us on paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Yet too often we have strayed from Your way.

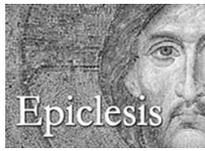
We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Father Hear Our Prayer

Father, hear our prayer
That our lives may be
Consecrated only unto You.
Cleanse us with Your fire,
Fill us with Your pow'r,
That the world may glorify Your name.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is God's assurance of His love and forgiveness:

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*The LORD is near to all who call on Him,
to all who call on Him in truth.*

He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him; He hears their cry,
and saves them. The LORD watches over all who love Him.

**My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.**

– Psalm 145:8-9, 18-21

TIME OF OFFERING

Words of thanksgiving and testimonies of God's faithfulness

Speak the Word

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;
The eternal, infallible word.

Speak the truth to me; let it set me free.

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;
The eternal, divine, holy word.

Let it calm my soul, shape and make me whole – Speak the word.

Chorus:

I will hide it in my heart, cherish every part;

Let it heal, renew; cleanse me through and through.

I will make it my delight, living by its light.

My faith, I know, will rise

In these words so rich and wise. Speak the word.

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;
The eternal, infallible word.

Let its power rise to dispel all lies.

Speak the word, speak the word, speak the word;

The eternal, divine, holy word.

Let it light my path, as each promise stands – Speak the word.

CCLI Song #7057124 ©2016 McKinney Music, Inc. Tommy Walker.
“Song of the Week,” #11 (2016).



THE WORD

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

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

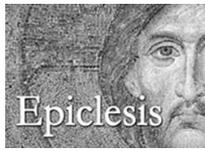
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

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

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

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

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Come, Christians, Join to Sing (verse 3)

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore: "Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!"



Benediction:

Beloved, as you go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, remember this great, good news: God the Father, through the eternal Word and the powerful Holy Spirit, created all things. Through His only Son, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, God revealed His perfect plan in all creation. And through the Spirit, the Word of God still speaks to us, enabling us – God’s children – to share in the life, love and community of the Triune God.

Thanks be to God!

Now to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Our nature can't contemplate heavenly things by our own strength. We must learn from God what we should think of Him. We have no source of knowledge but God Himself. You might be as well trained in secular philosophy as possible, and you may have lived a life of righteousness. But, although all of this will add to your mental satisfaction, it won't help you know God. Moses was adopted as the queen's son. He was instructed in all the Egyptians' wisdom. Moreover, out of loyalty to his race, Moses avenged the Hebrew by slaying the Egyptian who wronged him. Yet he didn't know the God who blessed his fathers. For when he left Egypt afraid of his deed being discovered, he lived as a shepherd in the land of Midian. There he saw a fire in the bush, but the bush wasn't consumed. Then he heard the voice of God, asked His name, and learned His nature. Despite all this he couldn't have known anything except through God Himself. We, in the same way, must confine whatever we say about God to the words He has spoken to us about Himself.”
– Hilary of Poitiers

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Lectionary for next week: Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

Lectionary for All Saints Day (Nov. 1): Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

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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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