

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 8, 2020 (Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done. For He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God.

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals,
in whom there is no help.

How blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God!

He made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

He keeps faith forever.

He executes justice for the oppressed,

He gives food to the hungry,
and sets the prisoners free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind,

He lifts up those who are bowed down,

He loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the stranger,
and upholds the orphan and widow;
but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.

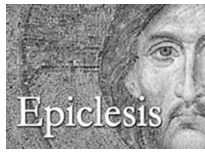
The LORD will reign forever, our God, for all generations.

Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

And let those who love Your salvation say continually:

“The LORD is great!”

– from Psalms 78:1-7a, 70:4, and 146



Behold the Lord

Great and marvelous are Your works,
Oh Lord Almighty.
True and righteous are all Your ways,
King of the ages.
Who will not fear You, oh Lord,
And glorify Your Name?

Chorus

Behold the Lord; God is my salvation;
In Him I trust, and will not be afraid.
And I will give thanks,
And sing among the nations forever;
Behold the Lord, behold the Lord,
Behold the Lord.

So rejoice and be glad in this:
Our God is with us:
Messiah, Emmanuel,
Lion of Judah!
Lift up your voice and declare
The glory of our King.

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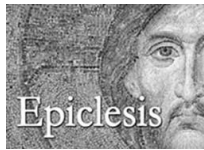
PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

Oh, Draw Me Lord

Oh, draw me, Lord;
Oh, draw me, Lord.
Oh, draw me, Lord;,
And I'll run after You.

CCLI Song #2241591 ©1997 Integrity's Praise! Music. David Baroni.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

This is the gospel, which we received, by which we were saved,
and in which we stand:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day,
and appeared to many faithful witnesses.

*Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God,
the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.*

In Him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.

All things have been created through Him and for Him,
and in Him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the church.

*He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that He might have first place in everything.*

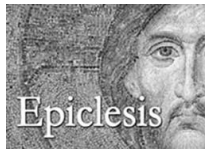
And God has put all things in subjection under His feet,
and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

*For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of His cross.*

**This is in accordance with the working of the strength of His might,
which He brought about in Christ,
when He raised Him from the dead,
and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all rule and authority and power and dominion,
and every name that is named,
not only in this age, but also in the age to come.**

– from 1 Corinthians 15:1-7;
Colossians 1:15-20;
Ephesians 1:19-23.





PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
Whose walk is blameless,
who do what is righteous;

[Silence]

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

*Those who speak the truth from their hearts,
Who do no wrong to a neighbor.*

[Silence]

Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy.

O LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle,
and who may dwell on Your holy hill?

Those who honor those who fear the LORD.

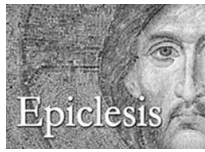
[Silence]

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

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.

As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our sinfulness.
He carried our guilt and shame upon Himself.
We are forgiven, forgiven.
We are forgiven, forgiven.

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Glenn Packiam and Ian Morgan Cron.
(Third verse lyric altered from first person to third person.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the generation of those who seek Him,
of those who seek Your face, O God.
*They shall receive a blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation;
they will never be shaken.*

– from Psalm 24:5-6

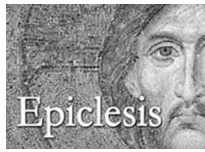
Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

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

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

All the way my Savior leads me;
Who have I to ask beside?
How could I doubt His tender mercy,
Who through life has been my guide?



All the way my Savior leads me,
And cheers each winding path I tread,
And gives me grace for every trial,
Feeds me with the living Bread?

Chorus

You lead me, and keep me from falling.
You carry me close to Your heart.
And surely Your goodness and mercy will follow me.

All the way my Savior leads me;
O, the fullness of His love!
O, the sureness of His promise
In the triumph of His blood.
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,
Wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages:
“Jesus led me all the way.”

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worshiptogether.com songs. Fanny Jane Crosby, Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman.

THE WORD

Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-20

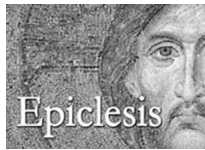
THE TABLE

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 (sung)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav'n.
Provide each day our daily needs;
Forgive our sins as we forgive others' wrongs;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, forever and ever;
And Thine is the power, forever and ever;
And Thine is the glory, now and forever. Amen, amen, amen.

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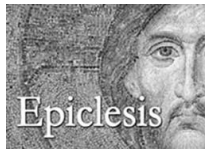
I Will Bow to You

Lord, I will bow to You, to no other God but You alone.
Lord, I will worship You, nothing hands have made, but You alone.

I will lay down my idols, thrones I have made,
All that has taken my heart.
Lord, I will bow to You, to no other God but You alone

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Behold the Lord (reprise)

Behold the Lord; God is my salvation;
In Him I trust, and will not be afraid.
And I will give thanks, and sing among the nations forever;
Behold the Lord, behold the Lord, behold the Lord.

Benediction

Beloved, we – the people of God – go forth in joy and with thankful hearts, because God Himself, the God of all grace and Creator of all things, He who is from eternity to eternity, is pleased to make His dwelling among us and to call us His own.

Amen.

Now may the grace, power, and love of the God of the universe propel us out into the world to love and serve the Lord, bearing witness to His cosmic story as the center of our lives.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Three things are found in faith. Those who work out their faith through love must hope for what God promises. Hope, therefore, is the partner of faith. For hope is necessary as long as we don’t see what we believe, or else, by not seeing we would fail. Not seeing makes us sad, but the hope of seeing comforts us. . . . Love is also the partner of faith. We long glow with desire for it, and hunger and thirst for it. So together there is faith, hope, and love. . . . Take away faith and all you believe in evaporates; take away love and all that you do evaporates. For the purpose of faith is to believe; of love, to do. For if you believe without love, you don’t diligently perform good works. Or, if you do, you do so as a slave out of fear of punishment instead of as a child out of love of righteousness. Therefore, faith purifies the heart and is worked out by love.”

– Augustine

Image credits. p. 3: Mark Jennings, “Trinity,” 2010.

Lectionary for next week: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7,12-18;
Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

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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