

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

January 23, 2022 (Third Sunday of Epiphany)

GATHERING

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

*Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.*

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard.

*Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.*

In the heavens He has set a tent for the sun:

Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
And its circuit is to the end of them.

And nothing is hid from its heat.

– from Psalm 19:1-6

Arise, bless the LORD your God forever and ever!

O may Your glorious name be blessed

And exalted above all blessing and praise!

You alone are the LORD.

You have made the heavens,

the heaven of heavens with all their host;

The earth and all that is on it,

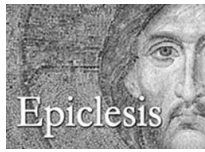
the seas and all that is in them.

You give life to all of them,

and the heavenly host bows down before You.

– Nehemiah 9:5b-6





O, Worship the King

O, worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
Oh, girded with praise.

O, tell of His might and sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is the path on the wings of the storm.
O, sing of His grace.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
O, worship the King; worship the King.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.

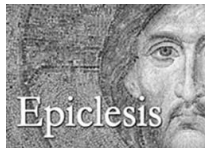
Redeemer and Friend, He's our Redeemer and Friend,
O, worship the King.

Redeemer and Friend, He's our Redeemer and Friend,
O, worship the King. Worship the King.

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2004 Ellen Koehler.
Words: Robert Grant, in *Christian Psalms*, 1833;
adapted from William Kethe, the Genevan *Psalter*, 1561.
Hymn tune: LYONS, attributed to Johann M. Hadyn.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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



Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in Heaven above adore Thee;
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.



Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2012 Words: Attrib. to Ignaz Franz, 1774;
transl. Clarence A. Walworth. Hymn tune: TE DEUM

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

**For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things;
to Him be glory forever.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
restoring the soul;

*The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

*The commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;

*The judgments of the LORD are true;
they are righteous altogether.*

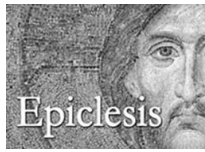
They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

**Your testimonies are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.**

**I have inclined my heart to keep Your statutes forever,
even to the end.**

– Rom. 11: 33, 36; Psalm 19:7-11, 119:111-112



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

But who can discern their own errors?

Cleanse me from hidden faults.

Keep Your servants from willful sins;

Let them not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

[Silent confessions]

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing to You, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

— based on Psalm 19:12-14

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.

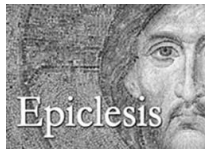
Have mercy, have mercy on us.
Have mercy, have mercy.

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.

CCLI Song #6476506 ©2013 Integrity Worship Music. Glenn Packiam and Ian Morgan Cron.
(Third verse lyric altered from first person to third person.)



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's own word, handed down by faithful hands through the ages, is trustworthy and true. Listen to these words of assurance and promise:

How blessed are those who fear the LORD,
who walk in His ways,
*How blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.*
How blessed are those who keep His testimonies,
who seek Him with all their heart!

– Psalm 128:1. 119:1-2

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Ancient Words

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

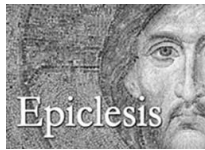
Chorus

Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you.
We have come with open hearts; O. let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith, handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice; O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Holy words, long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.

Martyrs' blood stains each page; they have died for our faith.
Hear their cry down through the years,
O heed these words and hold them dear.
Countless saints, most unknown, labored long, and alone.
Pressing on they won the prize, and gave us holy words of life.

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THE WORD

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Luke 4:14-21

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.

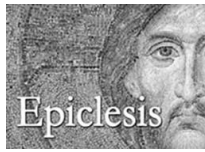
Christ will come again!

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done
On earth as in heav'n.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are Yours.
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)





'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise, just to know: "Thus says the Lord."

Chorus:

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him;
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus –
O, for grace to trust Him more.

O, how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;
And in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust You: precious Jesus, Savior, Friend.
And to know that You are with me, will be with me to the end.

Words: Louisa M. R. Stead, 1882. Hymn tune: William J. Kirkpatrick.
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2016

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

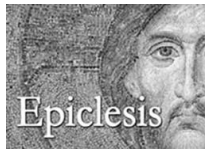
Benediction

May the Lord bless us and keep us.
May the Lord smile on us, shine His light upon us.
May the Lord lift us, turn His face towards us,
Give us His peace, give us His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today,
And blessed now, we will go.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.

Go now in peace; go now in peace.

CCLI Song #7000703 ©2013 Atlas Mountain Songs | Said and Done Music | sixsteps Music |
Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin



Benediction:

Beloved, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, walking out our baptisms in trust and faithfulness, may our ears and hearts be ever attentive, attuned, and responsive to His voice.

Amen!

And now, Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, grant that Your people, illumined by Your word and Table, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that He may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“To search the Scriptures is an excellent and profitable work for souls. Just as a tree is planted by streams of waters, the soul watered by divine Scripture is enriched and gives fruit (that is, righteous belief) in its season. It is adorned with evergreen branches—actions pleasing to God. Through the Holy Scriptures, we are trained to think rightly and to act in a manner pleasing to God. For in these words we are encouraged toward every virtue and dissuaded from every evil. ... All who ask receive, those who seek find, and to those who knock it shall be opened. Therefore, let us knock at the beautiful garden of Scripture. It is fragrant, sweet, and blooming with various sounds of spiritual and divinely inspired birds. They sing all around our ears, capture our hearts, comfort the mourners, pacify the angry and fill us with everlasting joy. Scripture sets our mind on the gold, gleaming, brilliant back of the divine dove. Its bright wings rise to the Only-begotten Son who is the Heir of the spiritual vineyard's Farmer. The divine dove brings us through Him to the Father of Lights.”

– John of Damascus

Image credits – p. 1: Mark Lawrence, *Luke 4:18-19: What Is The Answer?* contemp.;
p. 6: Mark Jennings, *Body and Blood*, contemp.

Lectionary for next week: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

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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