

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

May 8, 2022 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The grave is empty!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed! The Lamb is on the throne!

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before Him with joyful singing.**

Know that the LORD Himself is God.

It is He who made us and not we ourselves.

We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise;

Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

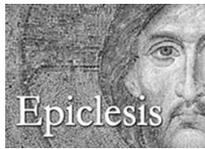
For the LORD is good:

His lovingkindness is everlasting;

and His faithfulness continues to all generations.

– Psalm 100





Rejoice, the Lord is King

Rejoice the Lord is King;
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!
The Lord is King!

Jesus, the Savior reigns,
The God of truth and love.
When He had purged our stains,
He took His seat above.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!
The Lord is King!

His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heav'n.
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!
The Lord is King! The Lord is King!
The Lord is King! The Lord is King!

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Original text: Charles Wesley, 1744; original tune: John Darwall, 1770.

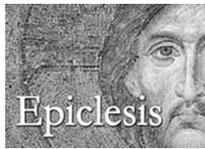
PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

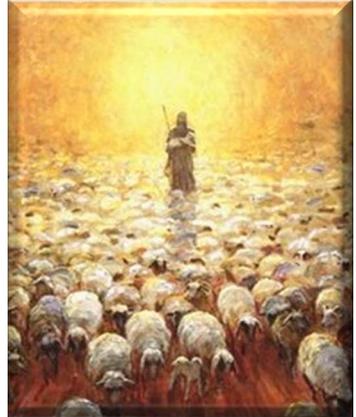
Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826; Music: John B. Dykes, 1861



Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him, praise Him!
Jesus, our blessed Redeemer.
Sing, O earth,
His wonderful love proclaim!
Hail Him, hail Him!
Highest archangels in glory;
Strength and honor
Give to His holy name.
Like a shepherd
Jesus will guard His children;
In His arms
He carries them all day long.



Praise Him, praise Him!
Tell of His excellent greatness.
Praise Him, praise Him
Ever in joyful song.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1869. Music: Chester G. Allen, 1869

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Jesus declared, in sure and true words of promise to His faithful:

I am the Good Shepherd;

The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

I am the Good Shepherd,

and I know My own and My own know Me,

even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father;

and I lay down My life for the sheep.

My sheep hear My voice,

and I know them, and they follow Me.

I give eternal life to them,

and they will never perish;

and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

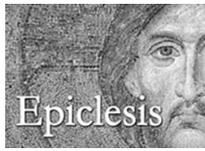
My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all,

and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

I and the Father are one.

– John 10:11, 14-15, 27-30

Thanks be to God!



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

To You, O LORD, we call.

**Hear the voice of our supplications when we cry to You for mercy,
when we lift up our hands toward Your holy sanctuary.**

Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

Shepherd them also, and carry them forever.

– from Psalm 28:1-2, 9

[Silent confessions]

O Lord, both Good Shepherd and Lamb of God,

**You tenderly gather us and carry us with Your all-embracing
love. Yet, like sheep, we tend to wander from You, following our
own ways, ignoring Your voice, distrusting Your provisions.**

**Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack
of trust. Refresh us anew and restore our souls by Your
redeeming love. Guide our paths in Your ways, that our lives
may be to the praise of Your glory, always. Amen.**

Holy, Holy Lamb

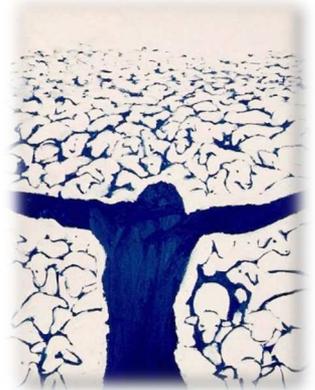
Holy, holy Lamb; holy, holy Lamb,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
Holy, holy Lamb.

Holy, holy Lamb; holy, holy Lamb,
He's worthy of all worship and praise,
Holy, holy Lamb.

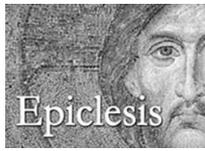
Salvation belongs to our God,
Who sits on the throne;
Salvation belongs to our God,
And unto the Lamb.

Holy, holy Lamb; holy, holy Lamb,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
Holy, holy Lamb.

Holy, holy Lamb; holy, holy Lamb,
He's worthy of all worship and praise,
Holy, holy Lamb.



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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, this is the good news of God's love and salvation:
Grace to you and peace from Him who is
and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**To Him who loves us and freed us from our sins in His blood,
and has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and
Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

– Revelation 1:4-5

Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and might
be to our God forever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

– Revelation 7:10, 12

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

The King In All His Beauty

O, lift your eyes to Heaven, see the Holy One eternal.
Behold the Lord of Majesty exalted in His temple.
As symphonies of angels' praise now strain to sound His glory,
Come worship, fall before His grace: the King in all His beauty.

Chorus

How worthy, how worthy;
How worthy: the King in all His beauty.

Now see the King who wears a crown,
One made of shame and splinters,
The sacrifice for ruined man,
The substitute for sinners.
As Earth is stained with royal blood
And quakes with love and fury,
He breathes His last and bows His head:
The King in all His beauty.



Now see the Savior lifted up: the Lamb who reigns in splendor,
The hope of every tribe and tongue, His kingdom is forever.
Bring praise and honor to His courts, bring wisdom, power, blessing;
For endless ages we'll adore the King in all His beauty.

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THE WORD

Revelation 7:9-17

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

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 (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.

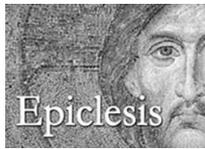
And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

Forever. Amen





We Behold You (Fraction Anthem)

With all of the saints and angels, we gather before You.
Our hearts filled with thankfulness,
We lift up Your holy Name.
With all who have gone before us, we feast at Your table.
We eat of Your body and drink of Your holy blood.

And we behold You, and we behold You:
Lamb of God, slain for our sins.

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Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain;
Holy, holy is He.
Sing a new song to Him who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat.

Chorus

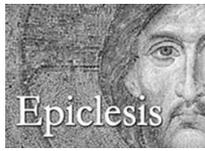
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color,
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power
Be to You, the only wise King.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,
At the mention of Your name;
Jesus, Your name is power,
Breath and living water,
Such a marv'lous mystery.

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SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



Rejoice, the Lord is King (verse 4)

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Give thanks and sing: Rejoice, rejoice!
The Lord is King! The Lord is King! . . .

Benediction:

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord.
Because He has triumphed over death, and He lives and reigns –
the Lamb upon His throne – you also live. **Alleluia! Amen!**

Since we have been raised with Christ, let us now go forth as His
witnesses, loving and serving Him in the joy and victorious power of
His resurrection. **Alleluia! Amen!**

Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – bless you now and
forever, as you go forth into the world to love and serve the risen
Christ. **Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“To those who conquer, God says, ‘I will give a crown of life.’ So be faithful to the point
of death, and fight the good fight. The apostle Paul felt confident that this crown had been
laid up for him. The angel also receives a crown of victory as he rides on a white horse to
conquer. Another is adorned with an encircling rainbow of beautiful colors—a heavenly
meadow. Similarly, the elders sit around crowned, too, with golden crowns, and the Son
of Man glimmers above the clouds. If these things merely appear in the vision of John,
what will it really be like when they are actually displayed? Look at the crowns. Inhale
the fragrances. Why do you condemn the brow destined for a crown to a little garland or
a twisted headband? For Christ Jesus has even made us kings for God, His Father.”

– Tertullian

Lectionary for next week: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 12:31-35

Image credits – p. 1: Apse ceiling mosaic in the Basilica of San Vitale, Ravenna Italy. 6th C; p. 3: Tim Wang, *The Shepherd*, contemp.; p. 4: Daniel Bonnell, *The Good Shepherd*, contemp.; p. 7: The Yorck Project, *Adoration of the Lamb*, c. 870. Wikimedia commons.

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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