

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

November 20, 2022 (Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Reign of Christ the King

GATHERING

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:

He has looked favorably on His people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of His servant David.

**Through His holy prophets He promised of old,
that He would save us from our enemies,
from the hand of all who hate us.**

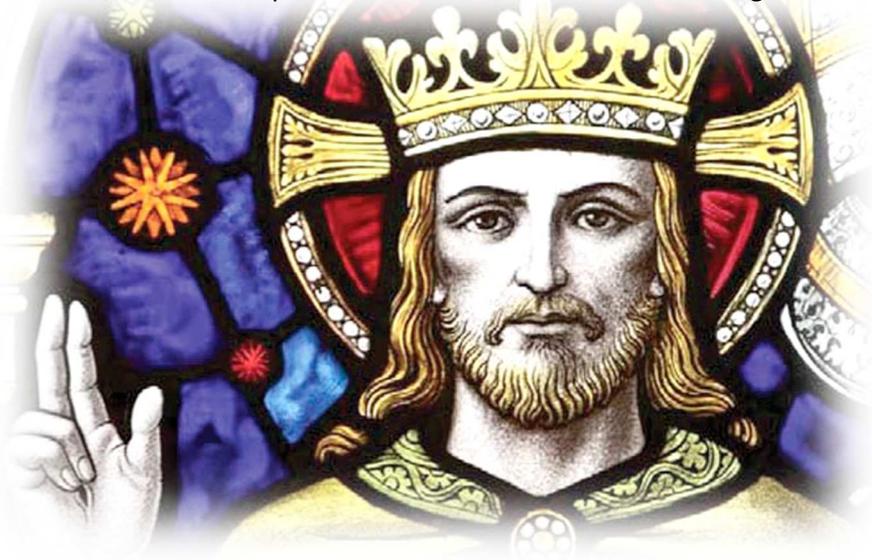
Thus He has shown the mercy promised to our fathers,
and He has remembered His holy covenant,
the oath He swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hand of our enemies:

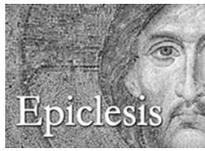
**Free to serve Him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness all our days.**

In the tender mercy of our God,
the Dayspring from on high has come to us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

– adapted from Canticle 16, “The Song of Zechariah” (Luke 1:68-79)

Come, let us worship Him who is our Redeemer and our King!





Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness tremble?
Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendour outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God.

Chorus:

Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory outshines the fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God.

Chorus

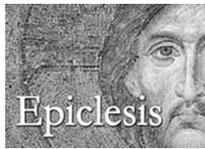
Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God. Only my Holy God.

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



Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heav'nly music drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n! One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through God giv'n from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died.
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified!

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1851. Hymn tune: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Jesus Christ has been ordained by God the Father
and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit –

To be our chief Prophet and Teacher,
who perfectly reveals to us
the secret counsel and will of God for our redemption;

*To be our only High Priest
who has set us free by the one sacrifice of His body,
and makes continual intercession with the Father for us;*

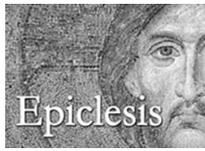
And to be our eternal King,
who governs us by His word and Spirit,
and who guards us and keeps us in the salvation
He has won for us.

*He ascended to heaven,
there to show that He is head of His church
and that the Father rules all things through Him.*

**In all distress and persecution, we turn our eyes to the heavens,
and confidently await as judge the very One
who has already stood trial in our place before God
and so has removed the whole curse from us.**

**All His enemies and ours He will condemn to everlasting
punishment; but all His chosen ones He will take to Himself
into the joy and the glory of heaven.**

– from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 31, 50, 52



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Pastoral Call to Confession

**Righteous God, You have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.
Yet we confess that we do not always bow before Him,
and are often slow to acknowledge His rule.
We too easily give allegiance to the powers and principalities
of this world, and fail to be governed as Your covenant people.**

[Silence]

In Your mercy, forgive us.

**Raise us to acclaim Jesus as ruler of all, that we may follow Him
and walk always in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.
Amen.**

Agnus Dei (Canticle 20)

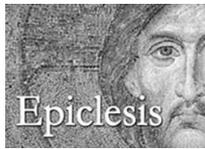
Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.

For You alone are Lord Most High,
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.
We worship You, we give You thanks,
We praise You for Your glory.

You alone are Lord Most High,
The Holy One, our heav'nly King.
We worship You, we give You thanks,
We praise You for Your glory,
Almighty God and Father. Amen.

Setting: Copyright ©2010 Ellen Koehler.

Based on the ancient hymn text, Gloria in excelsis ("*Gloria to God in the highest*")



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We give thanks to the Father, who has qualified us
to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.
*For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness
and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

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

– from Colossians 1:12-20

TIME OF OFFERING

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

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.

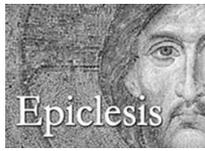
Chorus

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

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 1:68-79

Psalms 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

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 (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)

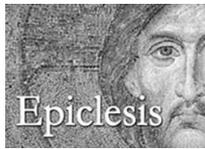
God, the Uncreated One (King Forevermore)

God, the uncreated One,

The Author of salvation,

Wrote the laws of space and time,

And fashioned worlds to His design.



The One whom angel hosts revere
Hung the stars like chandeliers,
Numbered every grain of sand,
Knows the heart of every man.
He is King forever; He is King forever;
He is King forevermore.



God, our fortress and our strength,
The Rock on which we can depend;
Matchless in His majesty, His power and authority;
Unshaken by the schemes of man, never changing Great I Am.
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall, He is faithful through it all.
Crown Him King forever; crown Him King forever;
Crown Him King forevermore.

Mighty God in mortal flesh, forsaken by a traitor's kiss;
The curse of sin and centuries did pierce the lowly Prince of Peace.
Lifted high, the sinless Man; crucified, the spotless Lamb;
Buried by the sons of man, rescued by the Father's hand.
To reign as King forever, reign as King forever,
Reign as King forevermore.

King eternal, God of grace, we crown You with the highest praise.
Heaven shouts and saints adore, You're holy, holy, holy Lord!
What joy in everlasting life, all is love and faith is sight.
Justice rolls and praises rise at the name of Jesus Christ.
King of kings forever, King of kings forever,
King of kings forevermore.

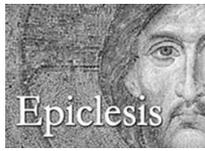
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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Crown Him With Many Crowns (reprise)

Crown Him the Lord of lords, who over all doth reign,
Who once on earth, th'Incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,
Now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing
Their songs before Him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King.



Benediction:

Beloved, as you go forth to love and serve the Lord, Christ the King –
May you be strengthened with all power according to His glorious
might, so that you may have great endurance and patience,
giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in
the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light! **Amen!**

Now to Him who reigns 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, King of kings and Lord of lords,
be glory, honor, and dominion forever and ever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

—based in part on Colossians 1:11-12

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“What sort of garland did Christ Jesus. . . submit to on behalf of humanity? One made of thorns and thistles—a symbol of our sins, produced by the soil of the flesh. However, the power of the cross removed these thorns, blunting death's every sting in the Lord's enduring head. Yes, even beyond this symbol, contempt, shame, disgrace, and fierce cruelty disfigured and lacerated the Lord's temples. This was so that now you might be crowned with laurel, myrtle, olive, and any famous branch—with roses too—and both kinds of lily, violets of all sorts, and perhaps with gems and gold—garlands that will rival even the crown Christ obtained afterwards. For after the gall, He tasted the honeycomb. He was not greeted in heaven as the King of Glory until He had been condemned to the cross as King of the Jews. The Father first made Him a little lower than the angels for a time and then crowned Him with glory and honor. If you owe your own head to Him for these things, repay it if you can; He presented His for yours. Otherwise, don't be crowned with flowers at all; if you can't be crowned with thorns, you may never be crowned with flowers.”

– Tertullian

Lectionary for next week: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14;
Matthew 24:36-44

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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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