

An Ancient-Future Faith Community  
*Liturgy*  
March 26, 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

GATHERING

Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.**

Who is like You, O God:

Majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?  
**You, O God, are mighty forever, glorious in power;  
Your faithfulness surrounds You.**

You sustain the living, and give life to the dead;  
**You support the falling, loose those who are bound,  
and keep Your faithfulness to all generations.**

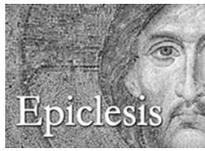
Who is like You, O LORD God of hosts?

All Your works praise You,  
and Your faithful servants bless You.  
**This is my God, and I will praise Him;  
this is our God; we will exalt Him!**

– from Exodus 15; Psalm 89

Come, let us praise and bless His glorious name.





## *Garments of Praise*

Put on the garments of praise  
For the spirit of heaviness;  
Let the oil of gladness flow down  
From Your throne.  
Put on the garments of praise  
For the spirit of heaviness;  
Your joy is my strength alone,  
My strength alone.

Make these broken, weary bones  
Rise to dance again;  
Wet this dry and thirsty land with a river.  
Lord, our eyes are fixed on You,  
And we are waiting  
For Your garland of grace,  
As we praise Your name.



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## PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

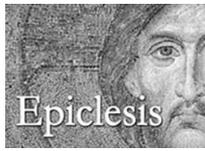
Calling on our Father God, in the Name of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit

### *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.

### *Chorus:*

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



Praise Him, praise Him!  
Jesus, our blessed Redeemer.  
For our sins He suffered and bled and died.  
He, our Rock,  
Our hope of eternal salvation:  
Hail Him, hail Him: Jesus, the Crucified.  
Sound His praises, Jesus who bore our sorrows;  
Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong.

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

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

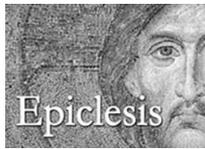
Let us together profess the faith of the church of all ages  
in these words from the epistles of the Apostle Paul:

Christ Jesus existed in the form of God –  
for in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.  
*Although He existed in the form of God,  
He did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped.*

But He emptied Himself,  
taking the form of a bond-servant,  
being born in human likeness.  
*And being found in human form,  
He humbled Himself,  
and became obedient to the point of death –  
even death on a cross.*

**For this reason God also highly exalted Him,  
and bestowed on Him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue will confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

– from Colossians 1:19, 2:9; Philippians 2:5-11



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*O LORD, hear my voice!*

*Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

If you kept a record of sins, O LORD, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness;

so that we can, with reverence, serve You.

– Psalm 130:2-4

Guided pastoral prayers

(sung)

**Out of the depths I cry unto You, O God.**

**Lord, hear my prayer.**

– Psalm 130:1-2a

*I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,  
and in His word I put my hope.*

– Psalm 130:5

Guided pastoral prayers

(sung)

**Out of the depths I cry unto You, O God.**

**Lord, hear my prayer.**

Put your hope in the LORD,  
for with the LORD is steadfast love,  
and with Him is abundant redemption.  
He redeems His people from all their sins.

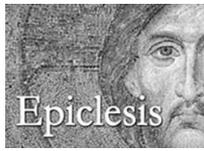
– Psalm 130:7-8

Guided pastoral prayers

(sung)

**Out of the depths I cry unto You, O God.**

**Lord, hear my prayer.**



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I waited patiently for the LORD;  
And He inclined to me, and heard my cry.  
**He also brought me up out of a pit of destruction,  
out of the miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a rock,  
making my footsteps firm.  
He put a new song in my mouth: Praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear, and will trust in the LORD.**

Let all who seek You rejoice in You;  
let those who love Your salvation say continually,  
“The LORD be magnified!”

– from Psalm 40:1-3, 16

## TIME OF OFFERING

Words and testimonies of thanksgiving and praise

### *Great Are You, Lord*

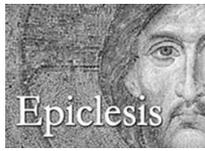
You give life; You are love.  
You bring light to the darkness.  
You give hope; You restore  
Every heart that is broken.  
And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs;  
So we pour out our praise,  
We pour out our praise.  
It's Your breath in our lungs;  
So we pour out our praise to You only.

And all the earth will shout Your praise.  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,  
“Great are You, Lord!”



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Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan, David Leonard.



## THE WORD

Psalm 130



## 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* (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.**

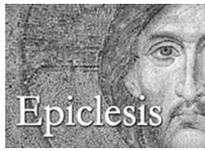
**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

*I Will Wait for You* (Psalm 130)

Out of the depths I cry to You, in darkest places I will call.

Incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.



Were You to count my sinful ways,  
How could I come before Your throne?  
Yet, full forgiveness meets my gaze,  
I stand redeemed by grace alone.

*Chorus*

I will wait for You, I will wait for You; on Your word I will rely.  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, till my soul is satisfied.

So put your hope in God alone, take courage in His pow'r to save,  
Completely and forever won by Christ's emerging from the grave.

*Chorus*

Now He has come to make a way,  
And God Himself has paid the price,  
That all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice.

*Chorus*

I will wait for You, I will wait for You,  
Through the storm and through the night.  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You,  
For Your love is my delight.

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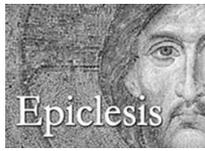
SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

*Praise Him! Praise Him! (verse 3)*

Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer.  
Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!  
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever;  
Crown Him, crown Him Prophet and Priest and King.  
Christ is coming over the world victorious:  
Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong.

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



Benediction:

Now brothers and sisters, as you go forth into the world to live out your baptisms, be encouraged to observe a holy Lent—walking in Christ’s own footsteps, in peace and hopeful patience, taking on His likeness and His virtues—that you may learn more fully to live as subjects of His kingdom in an upside-down world. **Amen.**

And just as Jesus set His face toward Jerusalem and the work He had to do there, so also may we set our faces in this Lenten season, as we, His covenant people, follow Him on the way to the cross.

**We remember, and we go with grateful hearts into the world to love and serve the Lord, our true blessing.**

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

*A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –*

“I boldly affirm that He who is above every name has many names in relation to us. And I receive them according to His various ways of dealing graciously with us. He is called the Light when He disperses the gloom of ignorance. He is the Life when He gives us the blessing of eternal life. He is called the Way when He guides us from error to the truth. Also He is called a ‘Tower of strength,’ a ‘City of encompassing,’ a Fountain, a Rock, a Vine, a Physician, and the Resurrection. All such terms refer to the various righteous blessings He gave to us. But those who set their sights on things beyond human understanding, who see the incomprehensible, but overlook what is comprehensible, use such titles to explain God. They are not only positive that they see Him, but measure Him whom no one has seen or can see.”

– Gregory of Nyssa

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**Lectionary for next week:** Liturgy of the Palms:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

Liturgy of the Passion:

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;

Matthew 26:14 - 27:54

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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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