

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

April 23, 2023 (Third Sunday of Easter)

GATHERING

Marching to Zion

Watts/Lowry

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known.
Join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

We're marching to Zion: beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

I was glad when they said unto me,
"Let us go into the house of the LORD!"

**Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!
Jerusalem, built as a city that is firmly bound together.
According to Your decree, we gather to give thanks
and lift up the name of the LORD.**

How blessed are those who dwell in Your house!
They are ever praising You!

**How blessed are those whose strength is in You,
in whose hearts are the highways to Zion!**

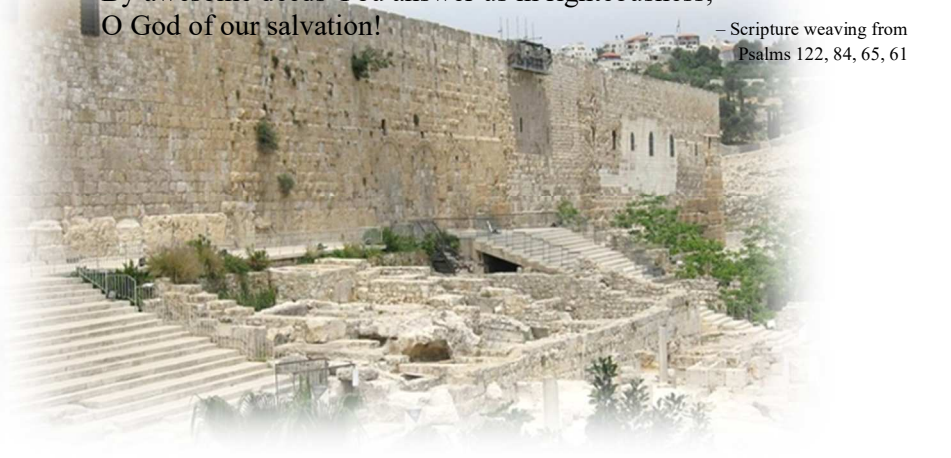
How blessed are those whom You choose and bring near to You,
to dwell in Your courts.

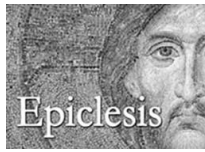
**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,
Your holy temple. We will abide in Your tabernacle forever.**

You have given us the heritage of those who fear Your name.

By awesome deeds You answer us in righteousness,
O God of our salvation!

— Scripture weaving from
Psalms 122, 84, 65, 61





Haven't You Heard?

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen?
Mary was there at crack of the dawn.
Weeping, she found Him down in the garden;
Laughter is living and grieving is gone.

Chorus:

Our hearts are glowing,
Our eyes are showing
That Jesus lives!

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen?
Cleopas told us. Evening drew on.
Walking and talking, traveling with them,
Jesus was present: now grieving is gone.

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen?
Peter was fishing. Out of the dawn
Jesus called, "Shoot your net to the starboard" –
Fishing is thriving and grieving is gone.

Haven't you heard that Jesus is risen?
Haven't you heard that Jesus goes on?
Haven't you heard that Jesus is with us?
Laughter is living and grieving is gone!

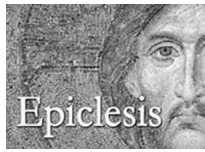
Scotland; Alison M. Robertson
©2005 Alison M. Robertson/SCM-Canterbury Press.
Tune: SCOTLAND.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, INVOCATION AND THANKS

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

Open My Eyes That I May See

Open my eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.



Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine.

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear.
And while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine.

Text and tune: Clara H. Scott, 1895.



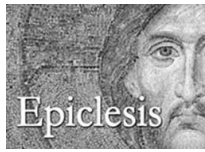
PROFESSION OF FAITH

We know that it was not with perishable things,
like silver or gold,
that we were redeemed from the futile way of life
inherited from our ancestors,
but with the precious blood of Christ,
like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

*He was chosen and destined
before the foundation of the world,
but was revealed in these last days
for our sake.*

**Through Him we believe in God,
who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him,
so that our faith and hope are set on God.
For we have been born anew,
not of perishable but of imperishable seed,
through the living and enduring word of God.**

— based on 1 Peter 1:18-23



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house,
and the place where Your glory dwells.

Examine me, O LORD, and try me; test my mind and my heart.

For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes.

– Psalm 26:2, 8

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

Eternal Light, **shine into our hearts.**

Eternal Goodness, **deliver us from evil.**

Eternal Power, **be our strength and support.**

Eternal Compassion, **have mercy upon us.**

[Silence]

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us and renew us. Grant that we may ever seek Your face with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and be brought by Your infinite mercy to Your holy presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

–from a prayer of Alcuin of Tours, 8th C, alt.

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

Have mercy on me, a sinner.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison, Lord Jesus, have mercy on me.

©2002 Petaluma Music; Setting by David Baker

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

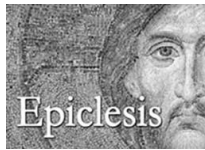
This is God's assurance of His love and deliverance:

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. He is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who have a contrite spirit.

– Psalm 34:16, 18

I love the LORD,

because He has heard my voice and my supplications.



Because He inclined His ear unto me,
therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live.
Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
He has delivered our souls from death,
our eyes from tears, our feet from stumbling.
We will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

– from Psalm 116:1-9

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought in the day and the night;
Both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word.
Thou ever with me and I with Thee, Lord.
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

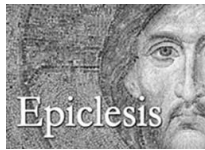
Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for my fight,
Thou my whole armor, and Thou my true might.
Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my strong tower.
O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance now and always.
Thou and Thou only, the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Thou and Thou only, the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2009

Ancient Irish Hymn (SLANE); trans. Mary Byrne, 1905; versified by Eleanor Hull, 1912.



THE WORD

Luke 24:13-35

Psalm 122

Psalm 137

Lamentations 1



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.

Amen.

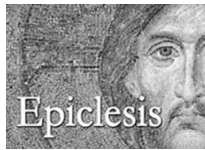
Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,

Slain for us: And we remember

The promise made that all who come in faith

Find forgiveness at the cross.



So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
Torn for you: Eat and remember
The wounds that heal,
The death that brings us life,
Paid the price to make us one.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.

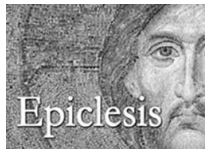


The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin,
Shed for you: Drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond, And to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n
Around the table of the King.

CCLI Song #5003372 ©2007 Thankyou Music.
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body



With Burning Hearts

With yearning hearts, we came today to worship;
With yearning hearts, we've seen Him in His pow'r.
We've heard His voice, we've broken bread;
Our eyes are opened wide.
With burning hearts, we now go forth in joy;
With burning hearts, we now go forth in joy.

Words: Chris Alford; Music: Ellen Koehler. ©2011

Benediction:

Beloved, the glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of Jesus Christ, overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in Him. **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Now, as He walked with His disciples on the Emmaus road and was revealed to them in the breaking of bread, so may our encounter with the living Christ compel us to go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord – with burning hearts, giving joyful witness to what we have seen and believed. **Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

A thought about worship...

“One of the greatest discoveries of my Christian pilgrimage has come with the realization that the primary importance in worship is not what I do but what God is doing. In worship, God is present, speaking to me, and acting upon me. It is in worship that God feeds, nourishes, and cares for me. And it is in worship that he gives me his grace, surrounds me with his love, lifts me up into his arms, affirms me as a member of his community, and sends me forth into the world with a fresh vision of his work and a new concern to live for him.” (Robert E. Webber, *Worship is a Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds of Salvation* [Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 1992], 66.)

Image credits – p. 1: Eastern portion of the Southern Wall of the Temple Mount (Wikipedia commons); p. 2: Helge Boe, *On the Road to Emmaus*, contemp.; p. 6: Duccio, *On the Road to Emmaus*, c. 1311; p. 7: Jacopa da Pontormo, *Supper at Emmaus* (detail), c. 1550.

Lectionary for next week: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

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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