

An Ancient-Future Faith Community Liturgy June 30, 2024 (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

GATHERING

How blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD, who made heaven and earth, who remains faithful forever.

Great is our God, and abundant in power.

His understanding has no limit.

The LORD builds up His people:

He gathers in the outcasts and wanderers;

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds; He feeds the hungry, frees the prisoners, and gives sight to the blind.

He lifts up the humble and the afflicted.

All creation declares the goodness of our God!

He covers the heavens with clouds, supplies the earth with rain, and provides for His creatures, great and small.

The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His lovingkindness.

- from Psalms 124:8. 146:5-9, 147:1-6





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



I See the Lord

I see the Lord,
Seated on the throne, exalted;
And the train of His robe
Fills the temple with glory.
And the whole earth is filled,
And the whole earth is filled,
And the whole earth is filled with His glory.

Holy, holy, holy, holy; holy is the Lord. Holy, holy, holy, holy; holy is the Lord.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together affirm the testimony of the apostle Peter:

God shows no partiality:

But in every nation anyone who fears Him and does what is right is accepted by Him.

This is the message God sent, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

This message spread throughout Judea,

beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

And yet they put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree.

But God raised Him to life on the third day, and revealed Him to those who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead.

He is the One ordained by God as Judge of the living and the dead.

Of Him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name.

-based on Acts 10:34-43



PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Thus says the high and exalted One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy,

"I dwell in the high and holy place, and with the contrite and lowly of spirit, in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."

— Isaiah 57:15

Holy and merciful God,

in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You and against others. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love.

[Silence]

Have mercy on us, Lord.

Accept our repentance, and accomplish in us the work of Your salvation, that we may show forth Your glory in the world; through Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Purify My Heart

Purify my heart, touch me with Your cleansing fire; Take me to the cross, Your holiness is my desire. Breathe Your life in me; kindle a love that flows from Your throne. Oh, purify my heart, purify my heart.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is faithful and true. This is His promise of pardon:

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the Rock from which you were hewn.

For the LORD will comfort His people; joy and gladness will be found in them, thanksgiving and the voice of song. And His justice will be a light to the peoples: His salvation will be forever, and His deliverance will never be ended.

— from Isaiah 51:1-6

Thanks be to God!



Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Chorus:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have born my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them;
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?



I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them; My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide, 'til their hearts be satisfied. I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

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THE WORD

1 Samuel 3:1-10 Matthew 28:19-20

Isaiah 6:1-8 1 Peter 4:10-11

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, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heav'n.
Provide each day our daily needs;
Forgive our sins as we forgive others' wrongs;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, forever and ever;
And Thine is the power, forever and ever;
And Thine is the glory, now and forever,
Amen, amen, amen.

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How Beautiful

How beautiful the hands that served The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth;





How beautiful the feet that walked

The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.

How beautiful, how beautiful; how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled

That took all my sin and bore it instead.

How beautiful the tender eyes

That chose to forgive and never despise.

How beautiful, how beautiful; how beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as He laid down His life we offer this sacrifice:

That we will live just as He died,

Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant Bride

Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.

How beautiful when humble hearts give

The fruit of pure lives so that others may live.

How beautiful, how beautiful; how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the feet that bring

The sound of good news and the love of the King.

How beautiful the hands that serve

The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.

How beautiful, how beautiful; how beautiful is the body of Christ.

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SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Doxology

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

The God whom heaven and earth adore,

From men and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore.

Doxology text from Fourscore and Seven Psalms of David (Geneva, 1561), All People That On Earth Do Dwell, vs. 4, attributed to William Kethe.; doxology tune: Old 100^{th} , attrib. to Louis Bourgeois.



Benediction:

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.

Amen.

And as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord, living out our baptisms, may He be so manifest in us that our lives are light to all those around us: to the glory of God -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

"What could be greater than to be seen doing the things Christ declared to be proofs of love for Him? He said, addressing the leader of the apostles, 'Peter, lovest thou Me?' When Peter confessed that he did, the Lord added, 'if thou lovest Me tend my sheep.' The Master didn't ask the disciple if he loved Him in order to get information (why would He when He already knows everyone's heart?), but to teach us how great an interest He has in the care of these sheep. Clearly, then, those who labor for these sheep that Christ values so highly will receive a great reward. For when we see anyone caring for members of our household, or our flocks, we consider that person's zeal for them to be a sign of love towards ourselves. Yet all these things can be bought with money. Imagine, then, how great a gift Christ will give to those who tend the flock He purchased, not with money nor anything of that kind, but by His own death. For He gave His own life to pay for the herd." – Chrysostom

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Lectionary for next week: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

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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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