

Pacific InterChristian Community
Community Worship
2013 Pentecost Season

Note: Italicized text describes what happens. It is not intended to be read aloud during the service. Where text is designated "one," "two," etc., each piece may be spoken by members of the community at random.

We Gather

Music, music, music

Invocation

One: God be in our heads, and in our understanding; *(touch fingers to head)*
God be in our eyes, and in our looking *(touch fingers to eyes)*
God be in our mouths, and in our speaking; *(touch fingers to mouth)*
God be in our hearts, and in our thinking; *(touch fingers to heart)*
God be at our end, and at our departing. *(hands fall to sides)*

All: Amen.

—A Sarum Prayer, adapted

Collect

(A member of the community lights the candle.)

One: God of life,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
you are our source and our ending.
We come together in love to sing,
to reflect, to pray and to celebrate
the life of your Spirit among us
Be with us today.
Guide and inspire us
that we may reflect your light to all the world.

All: Amen.

We Reflect

Meditation

(15 minute silent meditation)

Assurance

One: God's love and the Spirit's life are constant,
Yet human beings are imperfect.
Sometimes we feel lost;

sometimes we struggle with uncertainty.
We may not know what we need or how to ask for it.
We may not know how to give or receive help.
At times we may know the path we should take
yet fail to follow it.

Let us remember that God is
the source of compassion.
In all of life's struggles,
God knows us, loves us, forgives us and welcomes us home.
God *is* love.
We are not alone.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung response

Lectio divina

While a passage from the Bible is read, we each listen for words, images and associations that the text triggers for us. After a time of silence, the passage is read again. Everyone is then invited to share their reflections on the text if they choose to do so. We conclude with a final reading of the text.

We Offer

Prayers of Thanksgiving

One: Let us name aloud the joys and celebrations of our lives.
(Everyone is invited to name spontaneously events, circumstances, people and things for which they give thanks.)

One: God of love,
You are the source of everything that is good,
affirming, healing, nurturing and life-giving.
We thank you for the beauty of this world,
for the wonder of life
and for the mystery of love.
We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
for this community
and for the loving care which surrounds us.
We give thanks for Jesus who showed us the Way
of healing, peace and reconciliation,
his example of faithful non-violence
and courageous non-attachment, even to life itself.

All: Amen.

Music

Prayers of Intercession

(The prayers of the people are offered by a member of the community following which everyone is invited to light a candle and offer a prayer in silence or aloud.)

Music (response to the Prayers)

One: God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry
chafe our shoulders and weigh us down;
when the road seems dreary and endless,
the skies grey and threatening;
when our lives have no music in them,
and our hearts are lonely,
and our souls have lost their courage.
Flood the path with light,
run our eyes to where the skies are full of promise;
tune our hearts to brave music;
give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age;
and so quicken our spirits that we may be able
to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life,
to your honour and glory.

All: Amen

—*St. Augustine of Hippo, 354-430*

Body Prayer

(this body prayer uses American Sign Language)

**All: God, here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The Peace

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

All share the peace.

Offering

One: The offering will now be received.

Music

We Celebrate

The Great Thanksgiving

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: We give our thanks and praise.

One: We thank you, Holy God,
that when you established the heavens, Wisdom was there,
when you drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when you made firm the skies above,
when you established the fountains of the deep,
when you assigned limits to the sea and
marked the foundations of the earth.

Two: Sunrise and sunset, seed-time and harvest,
new life and old age
all follow Wisdom's order,
assuring us of your continued presence in our lives.
Wisdom is beside you,
rejoicing in the inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

Three: When patterns break—when resources don't run out,
when those who are lost, sick or broken
are found, healed and restored—
when our deepest longings are filled,
Wisdom is there, too.
And so, with all of earth and heaven, we sing:

All: Holy, holy, holy God...

One: At a time when the harvest was plentiful, but the labourers were few,
you sent your son, Jesus, to us.
He lived among ordinary people
showing us the signs of the times and
proclaiming Good News to the poor and all in need.

Jesus taught us the Way of forgiveness and peace
where demons are overcome;
enemies become neighbours;
and the dead are raised to new life.

At supper with his friends on the night before he died,
Jesus took a loaf of bread and broke it, saying,
“This is my body, given for you.
Whenever you eat it, remember me.”

(A member of the community breaks the bread, saying, “The bread of life.”)

Jesus took a cup and poured wine into it, saying,
“This is my blood, poured out for all.
Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

(A member of the community pours the wine, saying, “The cup of blessing.”)

God of new life,
breathe your Spirit in us and in what we do
that these gifts may be signs of life and love for us,
for one another and for all creation.

With Christ, in Christ and through Christ,
in the power of the Spirit, we pray

The Lord’s Prayer

(Sung version; uses American Sign Language)

Invitation

One: Friends, here is the mystery of ourselves
laid out before us.
Behold what you are.
Become what you see:
The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Communion

Music

Closing prayer (*uses American Sign Language*)

**Glory to God,
whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God,
from generation to generation
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Commissioning

One: God of justice,
your word is light and truth.
Let your face shine on us to restore us,
that we may walk in your way,
seeking justice and doing good.

All: **Amen.**

—*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*