

ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome! Thank you for joining us. We are here to commune together with the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. "Worship is the gift of participating through the Spirit in the incarnate Son's communion with the Father" (J. B. Torrance; see Jn. 4:23-24; Eph. 2:18; 1 Jn. 1:3). We hope that you will hear clearly the Gospel, or Good News, about Jesus Christ, through whom we know God. We also hope that love and grace will characterize everything we do here. If you have children age three and under, you may use the nursery next door to the sanctuary, or keep them with you if you prefer. Please stay for refreshments and conversation after the service. We would be happy to field questions you might have about the faith or our church. (Visit ascensionpc.org/worship to learn more about our Worship.)

Please silence your electronic devices.

WORSHIP • MAY 25, 2014



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 113:1-3

Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD!

Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore!

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!

The flame symbolizes the holy presence of God and the light of his Gospel among us.

God has the first word as **he calls us to Worship**. He takes the initiative in our relationship; he makes himself known to us and moves toward us in love (1 John 4:19). By God's grace alone we are invited, called into his presence. He has brought you here to respond to his grace.

The Triune God is a singing God (Zeph. 3:14-17)! So it is fitting to respond to him with **singing...**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text & Music: Martin Luther (1529) • Public Domain

Alto

A might - y for - tress is our God, a
bul-wark nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a -
mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For
still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his
craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cru - el
hate, on earth is not his e - qual.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The piece ends with a double bar line on the sixth staff.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 3:23

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 5:1

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Romans 8:24-39

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

There is a sense in which all of Worship is **prayer**, a divine-human conversation.

It is actually God's *gracious* initiation in **calling us to confession** that enables us to do so (Lk. 5:1-11; Rom. 2:4). If not for the assurance of his love, we all would try to hide or deny our true guilt, for fear of his righteous anger. We cannot hide from God (Heb. 4:12-13), but the Good News is that we don't have to!

In Christ, we are free to be honest about who we are and to admit what we have done as rebels in God's sight. We **confess our sin** and our utter need for God's mercy and grace through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our reconciliation to God.

Because of what God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, **we are assured that all our sins have been forgiven**. Our relationship with God has been completely restored forever! For many reasons, we need to be reminded of this Good News often.

Our grateful, joyful, loving response to our Savior is the giving of our very selves to him (Rom. 12:1). Our **Offering** is a real token of this (1 Cor. 16:1-2). And the **Doxology** gives expression to our new desire to praise him (Ps. 100).

As **God speaks to us**, we listen attentively with thanksgiving.

Because God is a Trinity—a Being in communion and dialogue—God is a God of **prayer**. While he was on earth, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, was constantly praying to his Father, and he taught his disciples how to pray (Mt. 6:5-15; Lk. 11:1-13). And, now that Jesus has ascended into heaven, he continues to pray for his people (Heb. 7:25).

So we often pray together in the way Jesus taught us, using “The Lord’s Prayer.” We pray to God as our Father! We pray according to Jesus’ will, and in his name (Jn 14:13). We pray for all kinds of people (1 Tim. 2:1-8), especially for the work of the Gospel in the world and in the church.

Visit ascensionpc.org/sermons/the-lords-prayer to learn more about prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray...

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem, may your church be a sign of hope and glory.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly risen from the dead, our Alpha and Omega, may the whole world live in peace and justice, according to Your will.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of promise, fulfill the needs and desires of those who are sick or sorrowful.

Lord, have mercy.

All powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace.

Teach us to proclaim the good news of your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

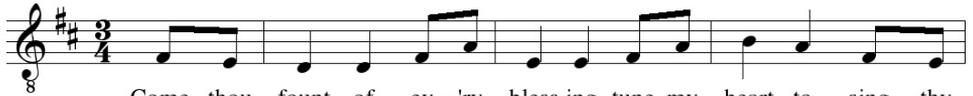
God, teach us to pray as your Son taught His disciples, saying

*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.*

Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson (1758) • Music: Asahel Nettleton (1825) • Public Domain



Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing tune my heart to sing thy
Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm
O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to



grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for
come; and I hope, by thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly
be; Let that grace, now, like a fet - ter, bind my



songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
wand' - ring heart to thee. Prone to wand - er - Lord, I



son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove; praise the
strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God: he, to
feel it - prone to leave the God I love: Here's my



mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

In Christ Alone

Text & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend • ©2001 Thankyou Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'In Christ Alone'. It consists of eight staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The score includes measure numbers 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 14. The lyrics are as follows:

In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, ful - ness of
3 There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the
light, my strength, — my song; — This Cor - ner -
God in help - less babe! — This gift of
5 world by dark - ness slain: — Then burst - ing
stone, this so - lid ground. firm through the
love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the
7 forth in glor - ious day up from the
fier - cest drought — and storm. — What heights of
ones he came — to save: — 'Till on that
9 grave He rose — a - gain! — And as He
love, what depths of peace — when fears are
cross as Je - sus died, — the wrath of
11 stands in vic - to - ry — sin's curse has
stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
God was sa - tis - fied. — For ev - 'ry sin on Him was
14 lost its grip on me, — for I am His and He is
all, here in the love of Christ — I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ — I live.
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood — of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
'till He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Jonah 2

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Remembering Grace” (Rev. Eric Costa)

The Word of God is one of the chief Elements of our Worship. God reveals himself to us in the word of his grace (Acts 20:32) for our relationship and life with him. If he did not do this, we would have no hope of knowing him as he truly is, and no hope of our salvation.

But God loves us, so he sent his Son, the Word of God himself, into the world to make himself known to us (Jn. 1:1-18). God's Spirit inspired the written Word that we have in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21). And God has called teachers to build up his people in his Word for love and service (Eph. 4:11-16).

God is a speaking God, and his Word to us is Good News (Rom. 15:4). It is a “Means of Grace” that he uses, by his Spirit, to grow us in our faith. We listen in prayerful anticipation of his good work in our lives.





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • Colossians 1:15-20

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE • Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

(Greet with the words, “*The peace of Christ be with you.*”)

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE MYSTERIUM FIDEI

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. (1 Cor. 5:7-8)

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

We respond to the Gospel with trust in God and in his work for us in Jesus Christ. We join with the Church throughout history and around the world as we publicly **confess faith** in Christ (Mt. 10:32).

Just as we are united to Jesus by faith, we are also united to one another in his Spirit (Eph. 2:11-22). We maintain and show our unity as we **share his peace** (Eph. 4:3).

The Lord’s Supper (also called Communion or the Eucharist) is the high point of Worship. Communion with God is the whole purpose of our creation and salvation in Christ.

All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world.

Please come forward after the musicians. The cup with the ribbon contains grape juice for those who do not want wine. We partake by intinction; we dip the bread into the cup.

Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

Text: Martin Luther • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

3
Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for
It was a strange and dread - ful strife when
Here the true pas - chal Lamb we see, whom
So let us keep the fes - ti - val
Then let us feast this ho - ly day on

6
our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right
life and death con - tend - ed. The vic - tor - y re -
God so free - ly gave us. He died on the ac -
which the Lord in - vites us. Christ is Him - self the
Christ, the bread of hea - ven. The Word of grace has

9
hand He stands and brings us life from heav - en.
mained with life; the reign of death was end - ed.
curs - ed tree, so strong His love to save us.
joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.
purged a - way the old and e - vil leav - en.

12
There - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to God right
Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says His death has swal - lowed
See His blood now marks our door; faith points to it death
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine
Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our meat and

17
thank - ful - ly loud songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
up our death; its sting is lost for - ev - er.
pass - es o'er, and Sa - tan can - not harm us.
to our hearts; the night of sin is end - ed.
drink in - deed; Faith lives u - pon no oth - er!

23
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia!

And Can It Be?

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Thomas Campbell • Public Domain



And can it be that I _____ should _____ gain an
'Tis mys - tery all: th'Im - mor - tal _____ dies: who
Long my im - pri - soned spi - rit _____ lay, fast
5 No con - dem - na - tion now _____ I _____ dread; Je -



in - t'rest _____ in the _____ Sav - ior's blood? Died he for
can _____ ex - plore His strange de - sign? In vain the
bound _____ in _____ sin and _____ na - ture's night, Thine eye dif -
10 sus _____ and _____ all in _____ Him, is mine; A - live in



me, _____ who caused his pain? For me, _____ who him _____ to
first - born ser - aph tries to sound _____ the depths _____ of
fused _____ a quick - ening ray; I woke, _____ the dung - eon
15 Him, _____ my liv - ing Head, and clothed _____ in right - eous -



death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love! How _____ can _____ it _____
love de - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let _____ earth _____ a -
flamed with light; My chains fell off, my _____ heart _____ was _____
20 ness di - vine, Bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal _____



be _____ that thou _____ my God, _____ shouldst die _____ for
dore, _____ let an - gel minds _____ in - quire _____ no
free, _____ I rose, _____ went forth, _____ and fol - lowed
24 throne, _____ and claim _____ the crown, _____ through Christ _____ my



me? A - maz - ing love! How can it be that
more.
Thee.
29 own.



thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

God has the final word as he sends us out into the world with his **blessing.**

BENEDICTION • Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

~

Sunday School • Please join us after Worship. Children gather for singing before going to their classes. Adults will have sermon discussion in the fellowship hall (young children are welcome). Contact: Suzanne Ryerson (soozanne@gmail.com).

Moms' Group • Contact: Sara Sery (503-327-4232).

- 10am Tue., June 3 at Shute Park
- 10am Wed., June 18, location TBA

Mercy Sunday • Sun., June 1... *Almsgiving* during Communion; *the Backpack Project* after Worship. Contact: Nathan Jaques (deacon@ascensionpc.org).

Summer BBQ • Sun., June 1 at the Costa home. Hot dogs and burgers will be provided. (Don't park in the bike lane!) Please RSVP to Jerilee to coordinate sides, desserts, and drinks (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Summer Picnic in the Park • Sun., June 15 at Walnut Street Park. (Bring swimsuits!)

Church Campout • Aug. 22-24 at Nehalem Bay State Park. Contact: Tim Sery (the.serys@gmail.com).

Nursery Volunteers • Contact: Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Today: Hamilton Next Week: Ryerson

Regular Gatherings • For information about our meetings like home groups and bible studies for men and women, visit ascensionpc.org/calendar.



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Worship • 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro • ascensionpc.org

(Please fill out this contact card, tear it off, and drop it in the offering.)

Name(s)

- I am a visitor.
- I want to know more about being a Christian.
- I would like to get coffee with the Pastor.
- Please send me the email newsletter.
- Please use this info for the photo directory.

Email / Phone