

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 • JUNE 8, 2014 • PENTECOST SUNDAY



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 118:1-4

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Let the house of Aaron say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Let those who fear the LORD say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

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...**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Text: Reginald Heber • Music: John Dykes • Public Domain



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!____ Lord____ God Al - migh - ty!____
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!____ All the saints a - dore Thee,____
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!____ though the dark - ness hide Thee,____
5 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!____ Lord____ God Al - migh - ty!____



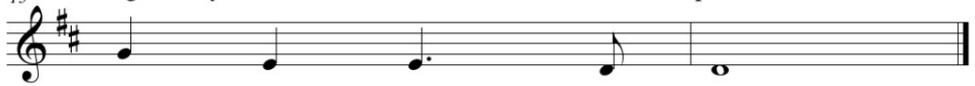
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not
8 All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and



Thee. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!____ Mer - ci - ful and
sea; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be -
see; On - ly Thou art ho - ly;____ there is none be -
12 sea; Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly;____ mer - ci - ful and



migh - ty!____ God in three per - sons,____
fore Thee,____ Who wert, and art, and____
side Thee,____ Per - fect in pow'r, in____
15 migh - ty!____ God in Three per - sons,____



bles - ed Trin - i - ty!
ev - er - more shalt be.
love, and pur - i - ty.
bles - ed Trin - i - ty!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 2 Corinthians 5:20b

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

OFFERING • 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

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.*

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 20:1-16

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

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...

(Elder prays)

And now as our Savior taught us, we pray:

*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.*

Jesus Paid It All

Text: Elvina M. Hall • Music: John T. Grape • Public Domain

1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Thy strength in - deed is small;
2. For noth - ing good have I Where - by Thy grace to claim;
3. And now com - plete in Him, My robe, His right - eous - ness,
4. Lord, now in - deed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine a - lone,
5. When from my dy - ing bed My ran - somed soul shall rise,
6. And when be - fore the throne I stand in Him com - plete,

Child of weak - ness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all."
I'll wash my gar - ments white In the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
Close shel - tered 'neath His side, I am di - vine - ly blest.
Can change the lep - er's spots, And melt the heart of stone.
"Je - sus died my soul to save," Shall rend the vault - ed skies.
I'll lay my tro - phies down, All down at Je - sus' feet.

Refrain

Je - sus paid it all, All to Him I owe;

Sin had left a crim - son stain, He washed it white as snow.

WORDS: Elvina M. Hall, 1865. MUSIC: "All to Christ"; John T. Grape, 1868. Public Domain.

Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus

Text & Music: Robert Lowry • Public Domain (Hymnary.org)



1. What can wash a - way my sin? Noth-ing but the blood of
2. For my par-don this I see: noth-ing but the blood of
3. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone: noth-ing but the blood of
4. This is all my hope and peace: noth-ing but the blood of



Je - sus. What can make me whole a - gain?
Je - sus. For my clean - sing this my plea:
Je - sus. Naught of good that I have done:
Je - sus. This is all my right - eous - ness:



Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Refrain



O pre eious is the flow that makes me white as snow;



no o - ther fount I know; noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

5. Now by this I'll overcome, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Now by this I'll reach my home, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know; nothing but the blood of Jesus.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Jonah 4

¹ But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. ² And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. ³ Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

⁵ Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. ⁶ Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ And the LORD said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

The Word of the Lord.

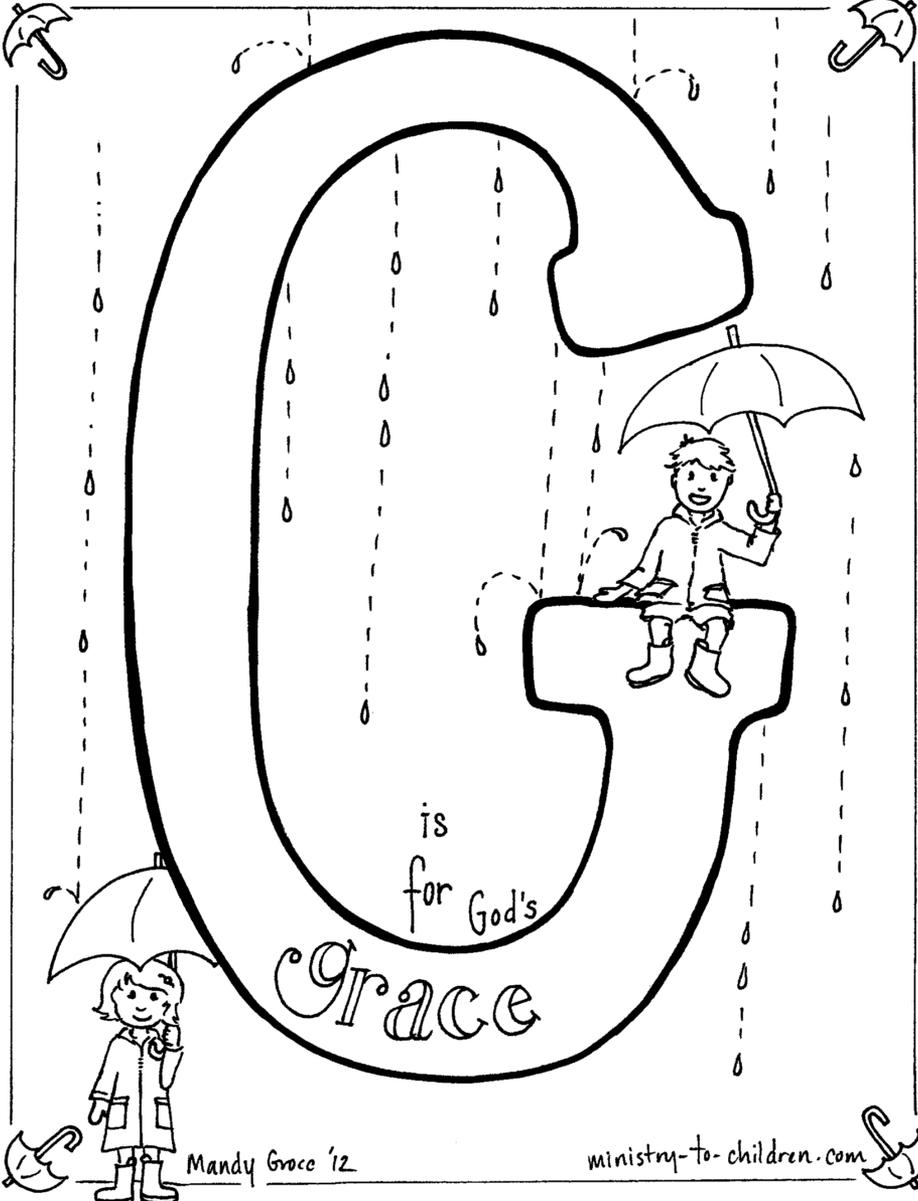
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "A Gracious God And Merciful" (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.



is
for God's

Grace

Mandy Groco '12

ministry-to-children.com



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 60

How are you right with God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. 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.

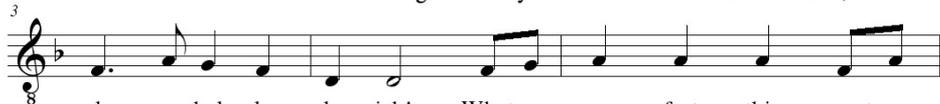
Please come forward after the musicians. The cup with the ribbon contains grape juice for those who do not want wine. We partake by intinction; we dip the bread into the cup.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives—Glory, Hallelujah!

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: American Folk Hymn • Public Domain



I - know that my Re - deem - er lives,
He lives, he lives, who once was dead,
He lives to bless me with his love,
He lives all glo - ry to his name,



glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! What com - fort this sweet
glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He lives, my ev - er -
glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! He lives to plead for
glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! He lives my Je - sus



sen - tence gives, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Shout
last - ing Head, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
me a - bove, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
still the same, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!



on, pray on, we're gain - ing ground, glo - ry, hal - le -



lu - jah! The dead's a - live and the lost is found,



glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!

The Valley May Be Dark

Text & Music: Wesley Randolph Eader • ©2014 Door of Hope

Adams shadow, it was casted.
How it covered the land.
Out from Eden it descended,
now to land on guilty hands.

The Laws of Moses, they were roaring
in the face of sinful man.
The sacrifices they would offer
could never meet its great demands.

(Refrain)

*And that valley may be dark (may be dark)
over all the earth extended,
but the love (but the love) of God is brighter (of God is brighter)
and its path cannot be bended.
Yes it hits (yes it hits) the sinner's heart (the sinner's heart),
turns their sorrows into laughter.
And with joy (and with joy) they will dance (they will dance)
up the mount of the redeemed.*

Prophets came and prophets went,
and their message was the same.
A Messiah would soon be coming
for the wandering souls to save.

(Refrain)

One last prophet came from the deserts
to announce the Lamb of God.
John would baptize with streams of Jordan,
Christ would baptize with streams of life.

(Refrain)

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

BENEDICTION • Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

~

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

- 10am Wed., June 18, location TBA

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

Women's Summer Study • 7pm Tuesdays at the Ryerson home, beginning June 17. Contact: Larissa Friesen (larissaelaborates@gmail.com).

Informational Meeting • Sun., June 22 after Worship. Join us for informal conversation about a few items important to our congregation.

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

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

Today: Costa Next Week: Sery

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