

# ASCENSION

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## 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](http://ascensionpc.org/worship) to learn more about our Worship.)

*Please silence your electronic devices.*

WORSHIP • JUNE 22, 2014



### THE WORD



#### CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 135:1-5

Praise the LORD!

Praise the name of the LORD,

give praise, O servants of the LORD,

who stand in the house of the LORD,

in the courts of the house of our God!

Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;

sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself,

Israel as his own possession.

For I know that the LORD is great,

and that our Lord is above all gods.

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 image shows a musical score for an Alto voice part. It consists of six staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: '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 music is written in a simple, clear style with a few accidentals (sharps and naturals).

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 • Colossians 1:2

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

### CONFESSION OF SIN • Ezra 9

*O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens. From the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt. And now, O our God, what shall we say? We have forsaken your commandments. O God, forgive me; forgive us, for the sake of your Son, Jesus, who died to take away our guilt. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

### OFFERING • 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

### 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.*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING • 2 Samuel 12:1-13

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](http://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...

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

*We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

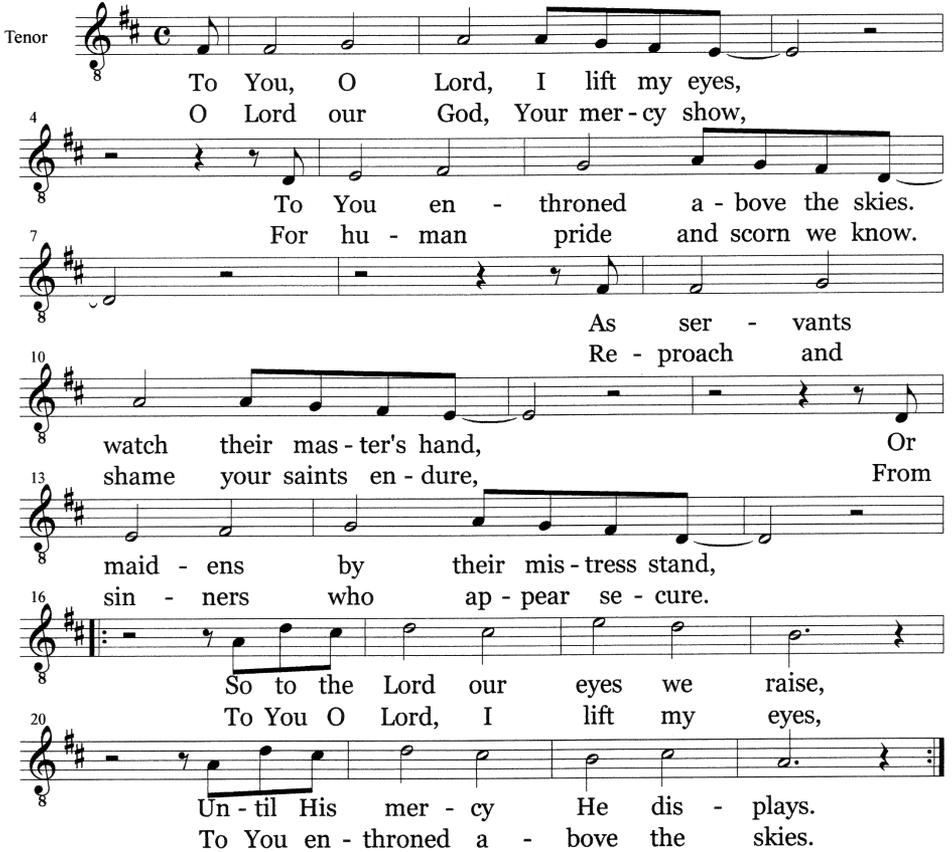
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

*not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

# To You, O Lord, I Lift My Eyes

Text: Psalm 123 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

Tenor



8 To You, O Lord, I lift my eyes,  
4 O Lord our God, Your mer-cy show,  
7 To You en - throned a - bove the skies.  
8 For hu - man pride and scorn we know.  
10 As ser - vants  
8 Re - proach and  
13 watch their mas - ter's hand, Or  
8 shame your saints en - dure, From  
16 maid - ens by their mis - tress stand,  
8 sin - ners who ap - pear se - cure.  
20 So to the Lord our eyes we raise,  
8 To You O Lord, I lift my eyes,  
Un - til His mer - cy He dis - plays.  
To You en - throned a - bove the skies.

# How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'How Deep The Father's Love For Us'. It consists of eight staves of music in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 15. The lyrics are: 'How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how Be-hold the man up-on the cross, my I will not boast in an-y thing, no vast be-yond all mea-sure, that sin up-on His should-ers; a-gifts, no pow'r, no wis-dom; but He should give His on-ly Son to shamed, I hear my mock-ing voice call I will boast in Je-sus Christ, His make a wretch His trea-sure. How out a-mong the scof-fers. It death and res-ur-rect-ion. Why great the pain of sear-ing loss; the Fa-ther turns His was my sin that held Him there un-til it was ac-should I gain from His re-ward? I can-not give an face a-way as wounds which mar the com-plished. His dy-ing breath has an-swer, but this I know with cho-sen one bring man-y sons to glo-ry. brought me life, I know that it is fin-ished. all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran-som.'

But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

## **GOSPEL READING • Luke 23:32-34**

<sup>32</sup> Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup> And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

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

## **SERMON • "Forgiveness For The Unaware" (Brian Friesen)**

**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 • The Heidelberg Catechism, 1**

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

*That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him. 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 Come With Joy To Meet My Lord

Text: Brian Wren • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

Tenor



I come with joy to meet  
I come with Chris - - - tians far  
As Christ breaks bread and bids  
my Lord, for - giv - en, loved and free; in awe  
and near to find as all are fed, the new  
us share, each proud di - vi - sion - ends; the love  
and won - der to re - call His life laid down for  
com - mu - ni - ty of love in Christ's com - mu - nion  
that made us makes us one, and stran - g - ers now are  
me. His name is Je - - - sus! A sac -  
bread.  
friends.  
ri - fice of love, I owe Him ev - - - ery  
thing, my life, my all.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways;  
and as His people in the world, we'll live and speak His praise.  
His name is Jesus! A sacrifice of love, I owe Him everything, my life, my all.

## **My Jesus, I Love Thee**

Text: William Featherstone • Music: Adoniram Gordon • Public Domain

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;  
for thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,  
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life and I'll love thee in death;  
I'll praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,  
and say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow,  
"If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."

In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore thee in Heaven so bright,  
and sing with the glittering crown on my brow,  
"If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."

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

**BENEDICTION • Philippians 4:23**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

~

**Informational Meeting** • Today after Worship. Join us for informal conversation about a few items important to our congregation.

**Summer BBQ** • July 6 after Worship 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).

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

**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: Aznoe      Next Week: Tayun

**Regular Gatherings** • For information about our meetings like home groups and bible studies for men and women, visit [ascensionpc.org/calendar](http://ascensionpc.org/calendar).



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**Worship • 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro • [ascensionpc.org](http://ascensionpc.org)**

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(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