

ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome! Thank you for joining us. We are here for fellowship with the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and with each other (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 • JULY 20, 2014



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 149:1-4

Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song,

his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise his name with dancing,

making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

he adorns the humble with salvation.

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 • Hebrews 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, you sent Jesus to be for us the way, the truth, and the life. We confess that we have turned aside to our own way, have ignored your precious word, and have sought to find happiness outside of your will and apart from you. In your mercy forgive us. We would flee to no other refuge, build on no other foundation, receive from no other fullness, rest in no other relief; but alone entrust ourselves to Jesus' saving power, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Hebrews 4:15

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

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

OFFERING • Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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 • Ezekiel 36:22-32

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...

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray, and to offer our petitions to you in His name.

Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of all generations, you formed your church from the despised of the earth and showed them mercy that they might proclaim salvation to all.

Strengthen those you have chosen that they may faithfully endure all trials by which you conform your church to the cross of Christ through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of comfort, you bear the pain of the world and stand with those who sorrow.

Look with compassion on those who are troubled, cheer them by your word, and bring them healing as a sign of your grace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mighty God, whose word we trust, whose Spirit enables us to pray: accept our requests and further those which will bring about your purpose on earth through Jesus Christ our Lord.

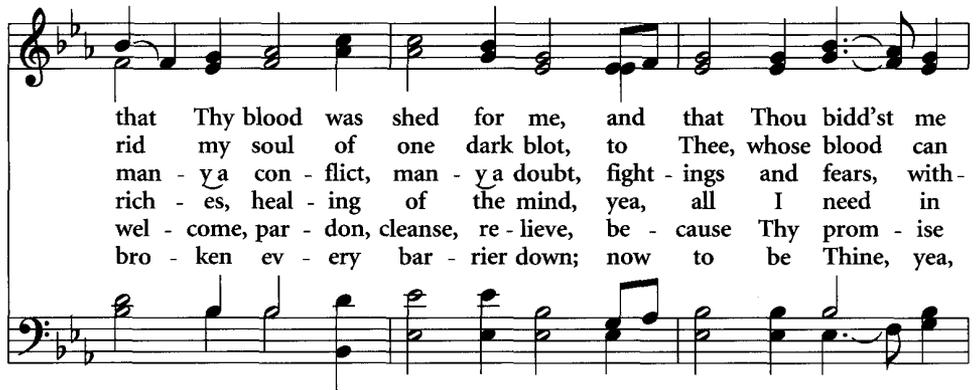
Amen.

Just As I Am

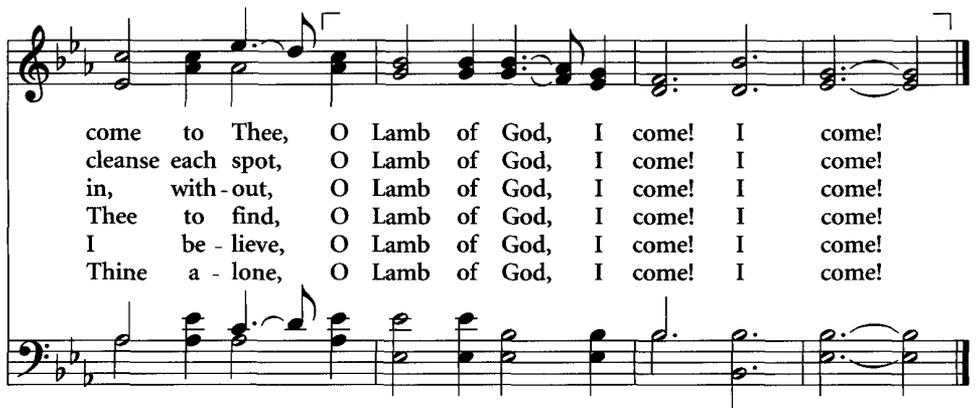
Text: Charlotte Elliott • Music: William Bradbury • Public Domain



1. Just as I am, with - out one plea, but
2. Just as I am, and wait - ing not to
3. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with
4. Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight,
5. Just as I am, Thou wilt re - ceive, wilt
6. Just as I am, Thy love un - known hath



that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou bidd'st me
rid my soul of one dark blot, to Thee, whose blood can
man - ya con - flict, man - ya doubt, fight - ings and fears, with -
rich - es, heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need in
wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause Thy prom - ise
bro - ken ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be Thine, yea,



come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

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, each with a vocal line and corresponding lyrics. The music is written in a single system with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are as follows:

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 1:8-10

⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The Word of the Lord.

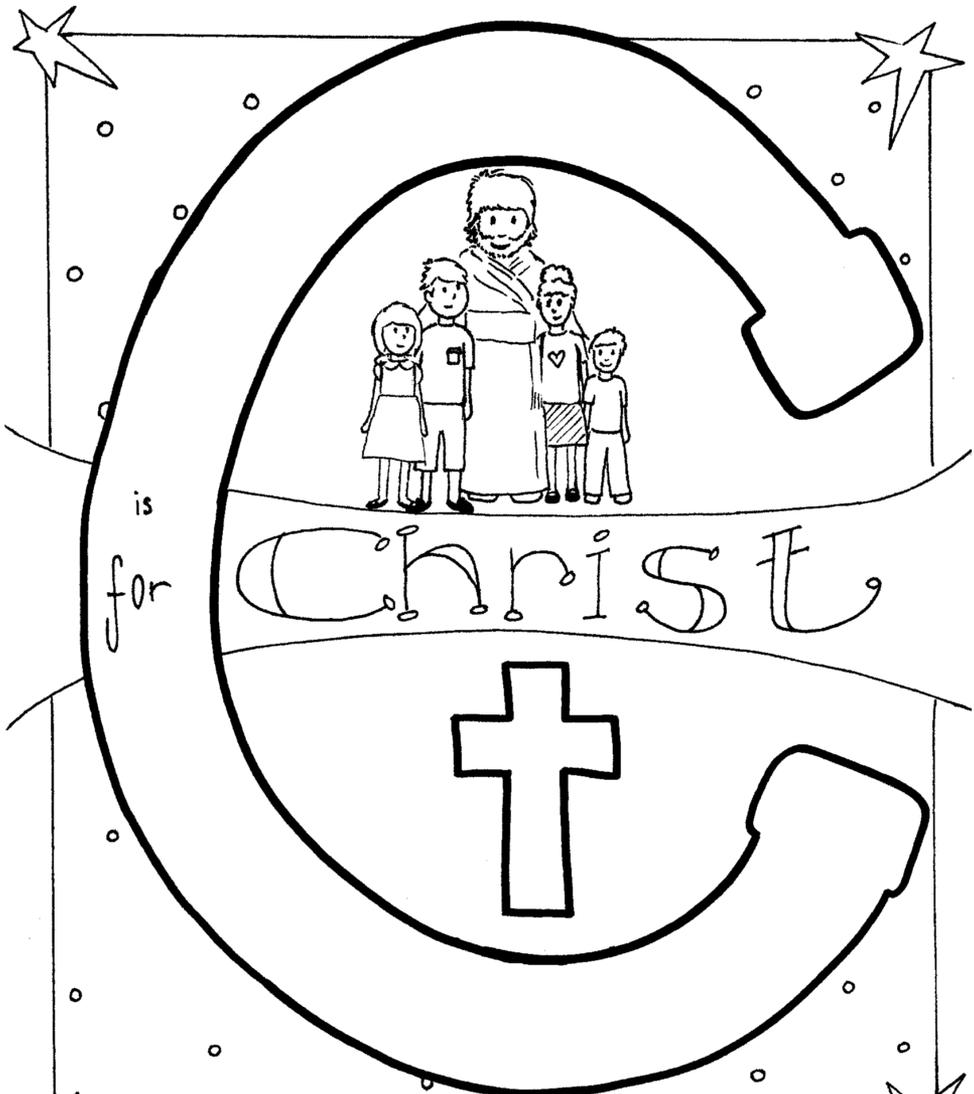
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Confessing Our Sins” (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.

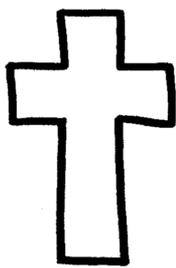
But God loves us, so he sent his Son, the Word of God himself, into the world to make himself known to us (Jn. 1:1-18). God's Spirit inspired the written Word that we have in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21). And God has called teachers to build up his people in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

CHRIST





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.

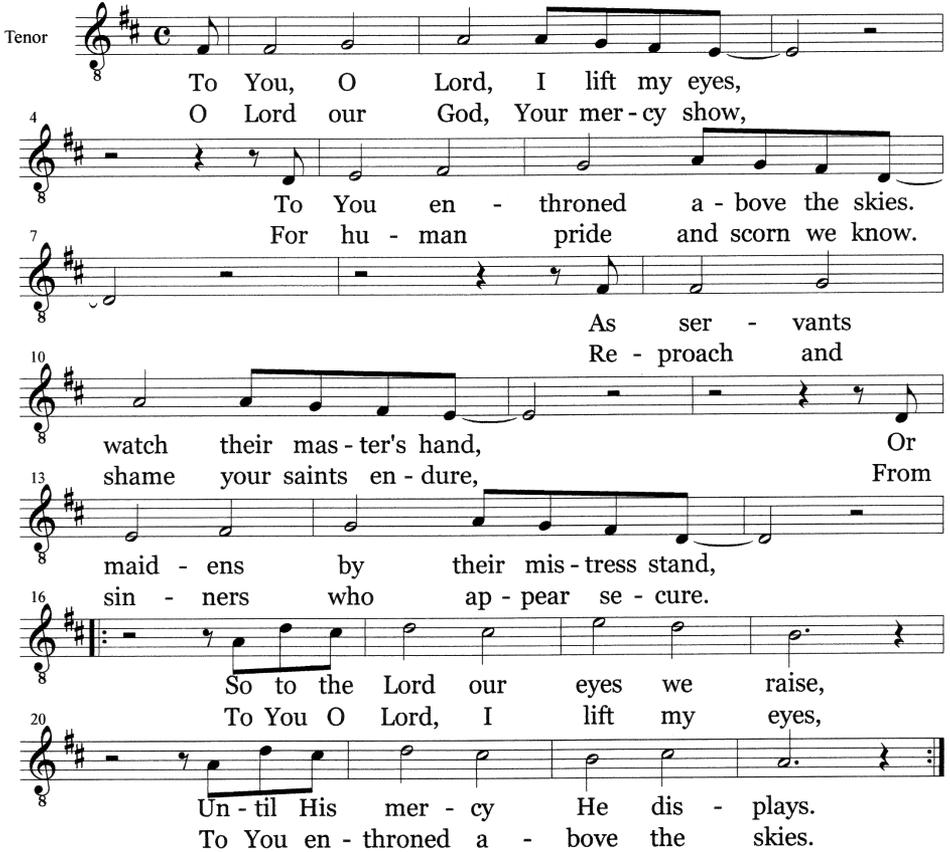
All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God's grace to live more faithfully for him in this world.

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.

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.
8 To You en - throned a - bove the skies.

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 • 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.

~

Fall Sunday School • We're starting to plan for the children's classes that will begin again in September. If you're interested in helping, please contact Joe Pope (joepope@comcast.net).

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

- 10am Thu., July 24 at the Washington County Fair (meet at main east entrance)
- 10am Tue., July 29 at Magnolia Park.
- 10am Tue., Aug. 12 at 53rd Ave. Community Park.
- 10am Tue., Aug. 26 at the Progress Ridge Fountain.

Summer Picnic in the Park • Today at the Walnut Street Park. (Bring swimsuits for the kids!)

"Packed with Love" • We'll collect donations on Sun., July 27. Contact: Nathan Jaques (deacon@ascensionpc.org).

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: Ryerson Next Week: Manary

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)

Email / Phone

- 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.