

# ASCENSION

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

*Please silence your electronic devices.*

WORSHIP • August 3, 2014



### THE WORD



#### CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 12:4-6

Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

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...**

# Come, Thou Almighty King

Text: Anonymous • Music: Felice de Giardini (1716-1796) • Public Domain

Alto

The image shows a musical score for an Alto voice part. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 4, 8, and 12. The lyrics are: 'Come, thou Almighty King, Come, thou Incarnate Word, Come, Holy Comforter, To Thee, great One in Three, help us thy name to sing, help us to gird on Thy mighty sword, our prayer attend! Thy sacred witness bear, in this glad hour. E - ter - nal praise. Hence, ever - praise. Fa - ther all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - tend! Come, and Thy peo - ple bless, and give Thy hour. Thou who al - migh - ty art, now rule in more. Thy sov - ereign ma - jest - y may we in to - ri - us, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Word suc - cess, Spi - rit of ho - li - ness on us de - ev' - ry heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spi - rit of glo - ry see, and to e - tern - it - y love and a - Days. scend! power! dore!'

Come, thou Al - might - y King,  
Come, thou In - car - nate Word,  
Come, Ho - ly com - for - ter,  
To Thee, great One - in Three,  
help us thy name to sing, help us to  
gird on Thy migh - ty sword, our prayer at -  
Thy sac - red wit - ness bear, in this glad  
E - ter - nal prais - es be, hence, e - ver -  
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glo - ry see, and to e - tern - it - y love and a -  
Days.  
scend!  
power!  
dore!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Hebrews 10:12-13

When Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*Holy Father, Son, and Spirit,  
we have lived in open rebellion  
against your gracious rule.*

*Please, Lord Jesus, may we find  
our redemption in your passion,  
the absolution of our guilt in your condemnation,  
the cancellation of our curse in your cross,  
the satisfaction for our sins in your sacrifice,  
our purification in your blood,  
reconciliation to God in your descent into hell,  
the death of our flesh in your tomb,  
immortality in your resurrection,  
our inheritance in your ascension.*

*We believe, Lord. Help our unbelief. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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

### OFFERING • Exodus 23:19

The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your 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.*

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.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 112

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Let us pray...

Most gracious God, who has promised to reveal His glory among all nations,

*Hear us as we pray for Your church. Bless all the ministers of Your word and sacraments and unite all Christians in the bonds of holy faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Lord God of our fathers, who has promised to take care of our every need,

*Give us peaceful times and fruitful seasons. Grant all in authority over us wisdom and strength to do Your will through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Most merciful Father, comfort all who believe the good news of Your grace.

*We pray for all who are distressed: the poor, the homeless, the sick, the bereaved, and those afflicted in body and mind. Comfort and relieve them according to Your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

And now, as our Savior taught us, let us humbly 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.*

## Before The Throne Of God Above

Text: Charitie Lees Bancroft • Music: Vikki Cook • ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part". The score includes measure numbers 4, 7, 11, 14, and 17.

Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a  
strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is  
love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His  
hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that  
while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de -  
part No tongue can bid me thence de - part

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look to see him there, who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,  
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
the great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood,  
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God.

# Jesus Lives And So Shall I

Text: Christian F. Gellert • Music: Matthew Curl • Public Domain

Tenor

Je-sus lives, and so shall I, death, thy sting is  
Je-sus lives, and reigns su-preme; and, His king-dom  
gone for-ev-er. He who deigned for me to die,  
still re-main-ing. I shall al-so be with Him,  
lives, the bands of death to sev-er. He shall raise me  
ev-er liv-ing ev-er reign-ing. God has prom-ised  
from the dust: Je-sus is my hope and trust!\_ He lives! He  
be it must, Je-sus is my hope and trust!\_  
lives! Je - sus lives!\_ He lives! He lives! and so shall  
!!

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict'ry o'er my passions giving,  
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living.  
Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust!  
(Chorus)

Jesus lives, I know full well, naught from him my heart can sever,  
life nor death, nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, henceforth forever.  
None of all his saints is lost: Jesus is my hope and trust!  
(Chorus)

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.  
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;  
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is my hope and trust!  
(Chorus)

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 2:7-11

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. <sup>8</sup> At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. <sup>9</sup> Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. <sup>10</sup> Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. <sup>11</sup> But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

## SERMON • “True Enlightenment” (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).

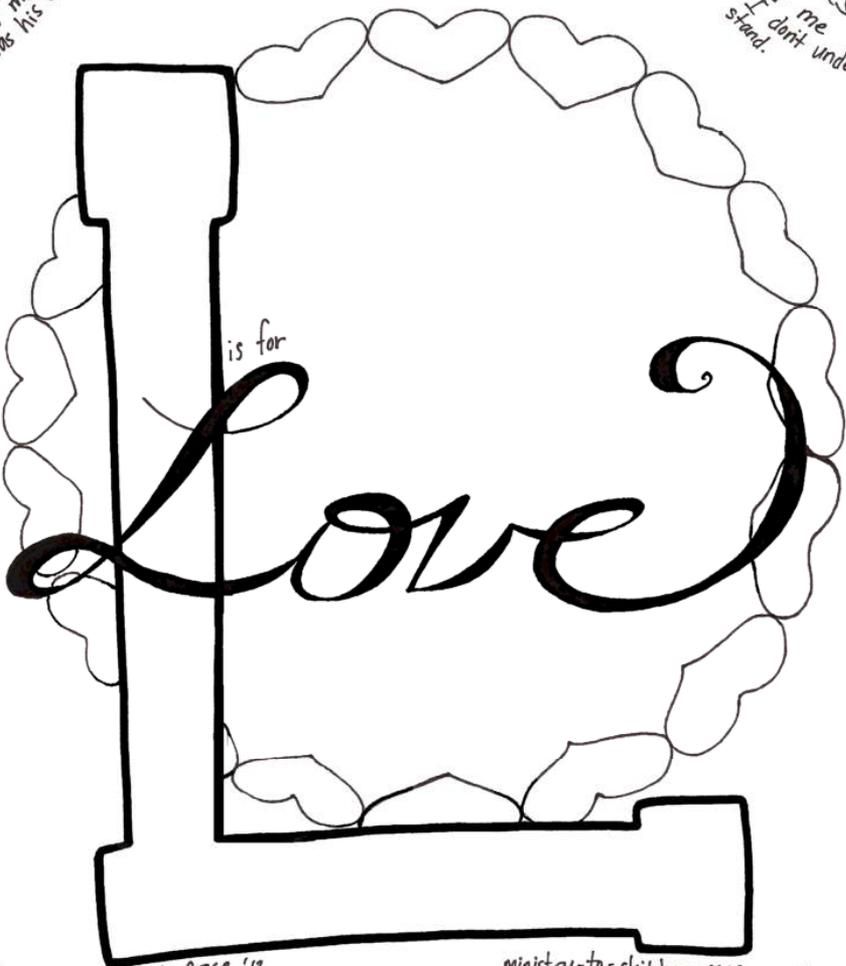
God is a speaking God, and his Word to us is Good News (Rom. 15:4). It is a “Means of Grace” that he uses, by his Spirit, to grow us in our faith. We listen in prayerful anticipation of his good work in our lives.



He loved me when  
I was his enemy.



He loves me  
when I don't under-  
stand.



mandy Grace '12

ministry-to-children.com



He loves me on  
my toughest days.



He loves me in  
my weaknesses.



# THE UPPER ROOM



## CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.*

*And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.<sup>1</sup> The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic<sup>2</sup> church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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.

<sup>1</sup> When the Creed states that Jesus "descended into hell," we understand it to mean that he suffered the holy wrath of God for the sins of his people.

<sup>2</sup> Or "universal."

# Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

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



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 to  
Then let us feast this ho - ly day on



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



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.



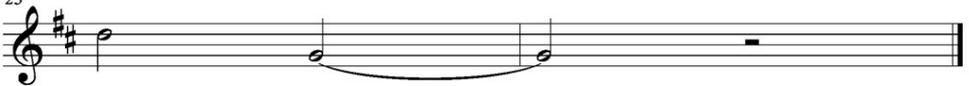
There - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to God right  
Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says His death has swal - lowed  
See His blood now marks our door; faith points to it death  
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine  
Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our meat and



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!



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



lu - ia!

# 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 ten 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 hyphenated across lines. The score includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, ful - ness of 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 world by dark - ness slain; Then burst - ing stone, this so - lid ground. firm through the love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the forth in glor - ious day up from the fier - cest drought and storm. What heights of ones he came to save: 'Till on that grave He rose a - gain! And as He love, what depths of peace when fears are cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of 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 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!

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

## **BENEDICTION • Jude 1-2**

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

~

**Mercy Sunday** • Almsgiving today during Communion.

**“Packed with Love”** • Love INC needs volunteers to distribute the backpacks and school supplies collected by local churches. Contact: Nathan Jaques (deacon@ascensionpc.org).

**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).

**Summer BBQ** • Sun., Aug. 10 at the home of Tim & Sara Sery.

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

- 10am Tue., Aug. 12 at 53rd Ave. Community Park.

- 10am Tue., Aug. 26 at the Progress Ridge Fountain.

**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](http://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.