

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 • August 17, 2014



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 49:13

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people
and will have compassion on his afflicted.

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...**

Be Thou My Vision

Text: Unknown, 8th Century • Music: "Slane" (Irish Folk Tune) • Public Domain



Be thou my vis - ion, O Lord of my
Be thou my wis - dom and thou my true
Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my
Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty
High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry



heart, naught be all else to me
word; I ev - er with thee and
fight; be thou my dig - ni - ty,
praise; thou mine in - her - i - tance,
won, may I reach heav - en's joys,



save that thou art, thou my best
thou with me, Lord; thou my great
thou my de - light, thou my soul's
now and al - ways: thou and thou
O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my



thought by day or by night
Fa - ther, I thy true son;
shel - ter, thou my high tow'r;
on - ly, first in my heart,
own heart, what - ev - er - be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 Peter 1:18-19

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Fountain of Living Waters, you give to all mankind life and breath and everything. But we have refused to honor you or give you thanks. We stubbornly pretend that we don't need you, that we can help ourselves. We actively resist your presence and will in our lives. We thoughtlessly ignore you, which may be the worst slight of all. Yet you remain a God of light and life and love, and, in your grace, you have invaded this world to save us from ourselves. Your presence and will, as seen in Jesus, is better than our autonomy. We are sorry for our foolish rebellion. Please forgive us, and fix our eyes on Christ, who came to seek and save the lost, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.

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

OFFERING • Malachi 3:10

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.”

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 to learn more about prayer.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

¹ I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.” But behold, this also was vanity. ² I said of laughter, “It is mad,” and of pleasure, “What use is it?” ³ I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. ⁴ I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. ⁵ I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. ⁶ I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. ⁷ I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. ⁸ I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man.

⁹ So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. ¹⁰ And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. ¹¹ Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

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...

(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.*

The Children's Song

Text & Music: Josh Garrels • ©2014 Door of Hope

Down on my knees, praying please have mercy now.
Christ my shelter in a world that tries to drag me down.

Open your heart, open your mind, open up your soul.
Jesus come in, and make a broken man whole.

Carry the cross, carry the pain, carry the love.
We don't belong here, but to the Father above.

Jesus in heaven and Jesus in hell below,
paid for our sin, broken body with the red blood flows.

Rise up in glory, you raise your hands to the risen King.
He's God Almighty, listen to his children:

Alleluia to our King!
Alleluia, Ruler over everything!

In this world you will have trouble.
But Jesus overcame the world.
And our body is his temple,
and we will worship forevermore.

Alleluia to our King!
Alleluia, Ruler over everything!

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

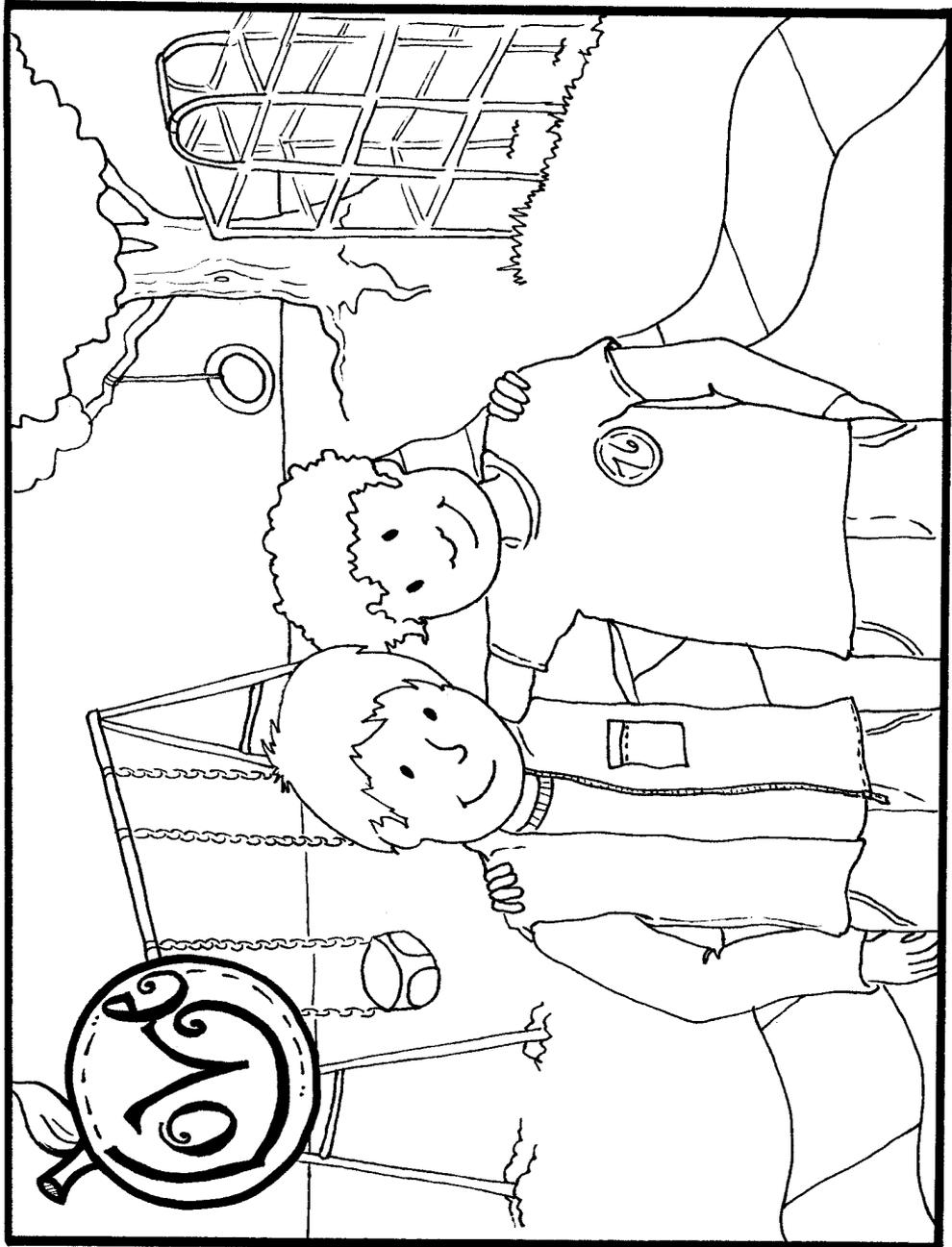
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Love That Lasts” (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 • Philippians 2:6-11

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

I believe that Jesus Christ, being God, made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born a man. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 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.

A Hymn To God The Father

A Poem by John Donne • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

Tenor

Wilt Thou for - give that sin where I be - gun, which
5 was my sin, though it were done be - fore? Wilt Thou for -
10 give that sin through which I run, and do run still, though
15 still I do de - plore? When Thou hast
19 done, — Thou hast not done, — for I have more, — I have
25 more. When Thou hast done, — Thou hast not done,
30 — for I have more, — I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
a year or two, but wallow'd in a score?

When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more, I have more. (2x)

I have a sin of fear that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
but swear by thyself, that at my death thy sun
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.

And, having done that, thou hast done.
I fear no more. I fear no more. (2x)

It Is Well With My Soul

Text: Horatio G. Spafford • Music: Phillip P. Bliss • Public Domain

Tenor

8
When peace, like a riv - er, at -
Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though
3 My sin, O the bliss of this
8 tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like sea bil - lows
tri - als should come, let this blest as - sur - ance con -
7 glo - ri - ous thought! My sin, not in part, but the
8 roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
11 whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
8 say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is
tate, and has shed His own blood for my soul.
15 more; Praise the Lord! It is well with my soul!
8 well... with my soul; it is well, it is well with my
21 soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well, with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul!
It is well, with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul!

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

BENEDICTION • Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to you, brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

~

Church Campout • Aug. 22-24 at Nehalem Bay State Park. We will have Worship at the Campout. *There will be no service in Hillsboro.* Contact: Tim Sery (the.serys@gmail.com).

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).

Fall Home Groups • Starting in September, on the second Sunday of each month, Joe & Cindy Pope will host a lunch gathering to discuss "The Gospel-Centered Life." On the fourth Sunday of each month, Eric & Jerilee Costa will host a lunch gathering to discuss "Generous Justice" (copies available on the book table).

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

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

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

Today: Tayun Aug. 31: Aznoe

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