

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 31, 2014



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Hebrews 12:28-29

Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

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...**

Amazing Grace

Text: John Newton • Music: American melody • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'A - maz - ing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found was blind but now I see.'

A - maz - ing grace how sweet the sound that
5 saved a wretch like me! I once was
10 lost but now am found was blind but
14 now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
he will my Shield and Portion be, as long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in thought and word and deed, in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through our ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 2:2

He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

OFFERING • Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

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 • Isaiah 61:1-3

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...

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.

Our Father in heaven, you are over all and through all and in all. All things come from you. We exist for you.

We praise you for all your works, especially in our creation and redemption.

Holy Father, no one has ever seen you, except the One who is at your side.

We thank you for making yourself known to us through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Eternal Father, you loved the Son before the foundation of the world. By your grace you have loved us even as you have loved him.

We love you because you first loved us. We want to know you and love you even as your Son knows you and loves you.

Merciful Father, you did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all.

We believe that you sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive our sins.

Father of glory, you raised your Son from the dead, and you have given all things into his hands.

We tremble at your power over life and death. We submit to the authority of your Son.

Father, you have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

We thank you for adopting us as your sons and daughters through Christ. We rejoice that you have qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you.

We worship you for your daily care for our physical needs. Please keep our hearts from loving the gifts more than the Giver.

Father of spirits, what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

We trust that you love us, and that you are forming Christ in us through our temporary sufferings. Please have mercy on us in the weakness of our faith, and make us ready for heaven.

Father of the fatherless and protector of widows, you love justice and mercy.

We want to be more like you. Please help us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to put their needs before our own.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, teach us to pray as your Son taught His disciples, saying

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.

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 strang - 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.

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!

NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 2:18-27

¹⁸ Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. ²⁰ But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. ²¹ I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. ²² Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

²⁶ I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. ²⁷ But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

The Word of the Lord.

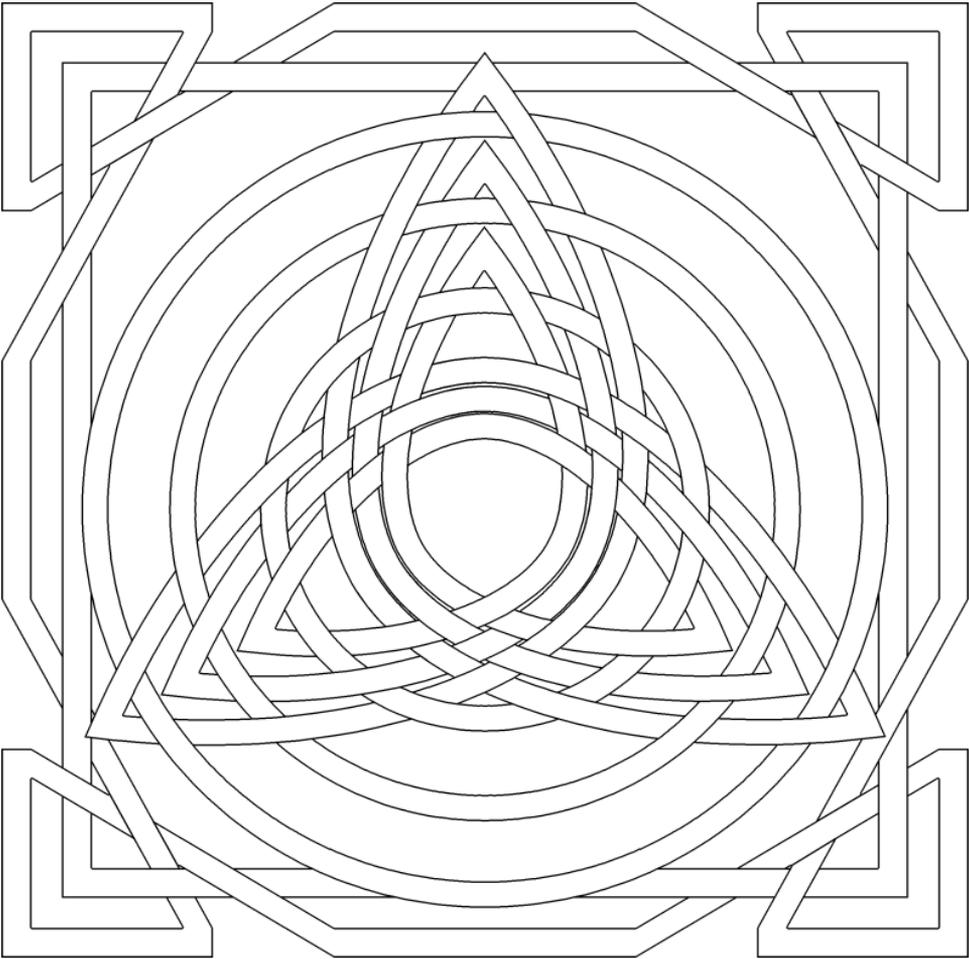
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Abide In The Trinity” (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 • The Nicene Creed

What do you believe?

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

¹ Or “universal.”

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy

Text: Joseph Hart • Music: Dana Dirksen • Public Domain

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all that he requires as fitness is to know your need of him.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

Come, arise, and go to Jesus, he will take you in his arms;
in the love of your dear Savior you are safe from all alarms.

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 • 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

~

Mercy Sunday • Sun., Sept. 7. On the first Sunday of each month we collect a special offering—*Alms*—during the Lord’s Supper, to help meet needs in our congregation and community. After Worship we engage together in a ministry of compassion—the *Backpack Project*—providing food to children in need at W. L. Henry Elementary School (this is an easy ministry for the children of the church to participate in). To sign up to bring food supplies, contact Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Informational Meeting • Sun., Sept. 7 after Worship and the Backpack Project.

Sunday School • We need teachers for our children’s classes that will begin again on Sept. 14. If you can help, please contact Joe Pope (joepope@comcast.net).

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., Sept. 9 at Waterhouse Lake (park in an uncovered spot in the apartments at 16085 NW Schendel Ave., Beaverton)
- 10am Tue., Sept. 30 at the home of Jerilee Costa (lunch will be provided)
- 10am Wed., Oct. 15 at the home of Kristine Manary (lunch will be provided)

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

Today: Aznoe Next Sunday: Friesen

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