

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 four 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 • November 16, 2014



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 34:3-5, 8

Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!
I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed...
Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

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...**

All Praise To God Who Reigns Above

Text: Johann Schultz • Music: *Mit Freuden Zart*, arr. Ascension Presbyterian Church

8 All — praise to God who reigns a - bove the —
What — God's al - might - y pow'r hath made his —
I — cried to him in time of need: Lord —
The — Lord for - sak - eth not his flock, his —
Ye — who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, to —
3 Then — come be - fore His pre - sence now and —

8 God of all cre - a - tion the — God of won - ders
grac - ious mer - cy keep - eth. By — morn - ing glow or
God, O hear my — call - ing! For — death he gave me
chos - en gen - er — a - tion; He — is their re - fuge
God give praise and — glo - ry! Ye — who the Fath - er's
6 ba - nish fear and — sad - ness; To — your Re - deem - er

8 powr and love, the — God of our sal - va - tion! With
eve - ning shade his — watch - ful eye ne'er — sleep - eth; With -
life in - deed and — kept my feet from — fall - ing. For
and their rock, their — peace and their sal - va - tion. As
pow'r pro - claim, to — God give praise and — glo - ry! All
9 pay your vow and — sing with joy and — glad - ness: Though

8 heal - ing balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - ery
in the king - dom of his might, Lo! all is just and
this my thanks shall end - less be; O thank him, thank our
with a moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his own, his
i - dols un - der foot be trod, the Lord is God! The
12 great dis - tress my soul be - fell, the Lord, my God, did

8 sor - row stills. To God all praise and — glo - ry!
all is right, To God all praise and — glo - ry!
God with me, To God all praise and — glo - ry!
cho - sen band. To God all praise and — glo - ry!
Lord is God! To God all praise and — glo - ry!
all things well, To God all praise and — glo - ry!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 6:1, 5

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple... And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Father, relieve our consciences, now and in the hour of our death, from the terror of our guilt and the fear of your judgment. Let your peace come into our hearts that we may await your judgment with joy. Be not severe in your judgment of us, or no one will be found righteous. Teach us, dear Father, not to trust or find comfort in our own merits or good works. But teach us to venture and resign ourselves faithfully and firmly to your infinite mercy. In the same manner, let us not lose courage because of our guilty and sinful lives. Let us regard your mercy as higher and broader and stronger than all our being. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 6:6-7

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

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

OFFERING • Philippians 4:11-13, 19-20

I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me... And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 • Psalm 20

- 1 May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble!
May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!
- 2 May he send you help from the sanctuary
and give you support from Zion!
- 3 May he remember all your offerings
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices!
- 4 May he grant you your heart’s desire
and fulfill all your plans!
- 5 May we shout for joy over your salvation,
and in the name of our God set up our banners!
May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!
- 6 Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed;
he will answer him from his holy heaven
with the saving might of his right hand.
- 7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.
- 8 They collapse and fall,
but we rise and stand upright.
- 9 O LORD, save the king!
May he answer us when we call.

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.*

Within A Crib My Savior Lay

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl

Tenor

With-in a crib my Sav-ior lay, a woo-den man-ger
filled with hay, come down for love on Christ-mas day:
All glo-ry be to Je-sus! Up-on a cross my
Sav-ior died, to ran-som sin-ners, cru-ci-fied, His lov-ing arms still
o-pen wide: All glo-ry be to Je-sus! And this is
love! And this is grace! He came to earth our souls to
save! All glo-ry be to Je-sus!

A victor's crown my Savior won,
his work of love and mercy done,
the Father's high ascended Son:
all glory be to Jesus!

And soon to glory we will rise,
because of our Lord's sacrifice,
new life through him, the crucified:
All glory be to Jesus!

And this is love! And this is grace!
He came to earth our souls to save!
And this is love! And this is grace!
That Christ, our God, did come to save!
All glory be to Jesus.
All glory be to Jesus.

Come, Holy Ghost

Text: Rhabanus Maurus (A.D. 776-856); chorus by Ray Mills (2005)

Music: Bruce Benedict & Ray Mills • ©2006 Cardiphonia Music, ©2006 Raymond G. Mills

Dm F C

1. Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And in our hearts take
2. O Com fort - er, to thee we cry, Thou heav'n - ly gift of
3. O Ho - ly Ghost, through thee a - lone, Know we the Fa - ther
4. Praise we the Lord, Fa - ther and Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it

7 G Dm F

up Thy rest; Come with thy grace and heav'n - ly aid
God most high; Thou fount of life, and fire of love,
and the Son; Be this our firm un - chang - ing creed,
with them one; And may the Son on us be - stow

13 C G B \flat

to fill our hearts which thou hast made, to fill our hearts which
And sweet a - noint - ing from a - bove, And sweet a - noint - ing
That thou dost from them both pro - ceed, That thou dost from them
all gifts that from the Spir - it flow, All gifts that from the

19 F Refrain: Dm F

Thou has made. Be not a - fraid
from a - bove. Refrain:
both pro - ceed. Refrain:
Spir - it flow. Refrain:

26 C G

Where you go There I am with you.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 5:13-17

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

The Word of the Lord.

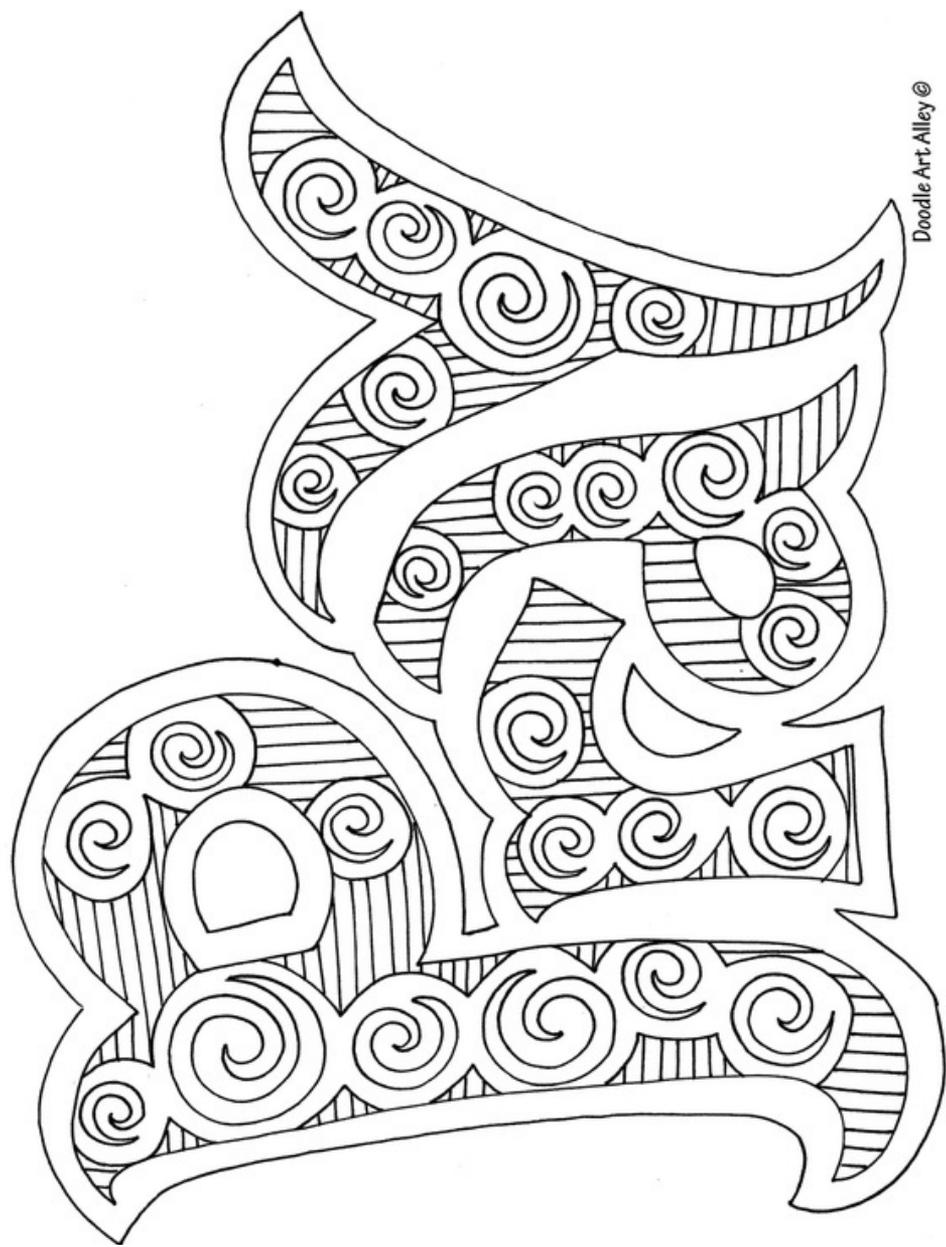
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Confidence In Prayer” (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 • Colossians 1:15-20

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. 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.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Text: George Matheson • Music: Matthew H. Curl

Tenor

8 O Love that will not let me go,
7 O Light that follow'st all my way,
13 I rest my weary soul in thee;
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
18 I give thee back the life I
My heart restores its borrowed
8 owe, That in thine ocean depths
24 ray, That in thy sun-shine's blaze
8 its flow may richer fuller be. O Love that will
30 its day may brighter, fairer be.
37 not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
43 I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean
8 depths its flow may richer fuller be!

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.

(Chorus)

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

(Chorus)

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 ten staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 15 indicated on the left side of the staves. 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.

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

BENEDICTION • Psalm 20:1-2, 4

May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble!
May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!
May he send you help from the sanctuary
and give you support from Zion!
May he grant you your heart's desire
and fulfill all your plans!

~

Sunday School • About 15 minutes after Worship, the children will meet in the sanctuary for singing, then go to their classes. Adults will meet for sermon discussion in the fellowship hall.

Music Group • All musicians (and families) are invited to join us at 6:30pm Wednesdays at the Costa home for a brief time of devotion, fellowship, and practice.

Group Baby Shower • 10:30am Sat., Nov. 22 at the Manary home (38191 NW Hahn Road, Banks).

Generous Justice Home Group • Next Sunday (Nov. 23) at the home of Eric & Jerilee Costa (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). Please RSVP (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

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

Today: Ryerson Next Sunday: Manary

Refreshments Volunteers • Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com).

Today: Ryerson Next Sunday: Sery

Finance Report (through Sept.) • Income: \$92,200 Expenses: \$101,700 Cash Reserves: \$18k

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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(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.