

## ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 1, 2015



### THE WORD



#### CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 96:1-4

Oh sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD all the earth!  
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples!  
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be feared above all gods.

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...**

# Rejoice, The Lord Is King

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: John Darwall • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Re - joice the Lord is King: your Lord and King a -  
Je - sus the sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and  
His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and  
He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub -  
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall  
8 dore! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing and tri - umph ev - er -  
love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a -  
heav'n; the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus  
mit, and bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his  
8 come, and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal  
more. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I  
bove.  
giv'n.  
feet.  
home.  
13 say re - - - - joice!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Matthew 3:1-2

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

### 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 • John 1:29

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

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

### OFFERING • Acts 20:32, 35

"Now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified... By working hard we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

### 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 23

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...

O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:

*Particularly for our sister churches in the Pacific Northwest Presbytery.*

O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:

*We pray for those who do not know you; we pray that your gospel would run in our city; we pray that your fame and glory would spread here and throughout the world.*

O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:

*Please give our President humility, wisdom, strength and trust in you. Please bless our Governor and our Mayor; please bring prosperity and peace to our city through your gospel.*

O Lord, we cry out to you for the poor and suffering of our community:

*We pray for those who are living on the streets. We pray for those who are discouraged and suffering in depression. We pray for those who are struggling financially. We pray for those who are sick or facing imminent death and for those who care for them.*

O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs...

(Silent prayer)

All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray 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.*

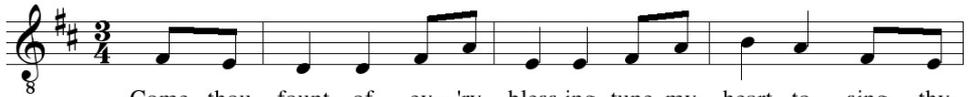
*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.*

*Amen.*

# Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson (1758) • Music: Asahel Nettleton (1825) • Public Domain



Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing tune my heart to sing thy  
Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm  
O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to



grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for  
come; and I hope, by thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly  
be; Let that grace, now, like a fet - ter, bind my



songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious  
to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
wand' - ring heart to thee. Prone to wand - er - Lord, I



son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove; praise the  
strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God: he, to  
feel it - prone to leave the God I love: Here's my



mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

# The Trinity For Eternity

Text: Catherine Winkworth • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now, our  
Un - seal our lips, to sing your praise, our  
5 Un - til we join the hosts that cry, "Ho-  
8 hearts in true de - vo - tion bow.  
souls to you in wor - ship raise.  
9 ly are you! O Lord most high!"  
8 Your Spi - rit send, with grace di - vine, and  
Make strong our faith, in - crease our light, that  
13 And in the light of that blest place, for -  
8 let your truth with - in us shine. Glo - ry  
we may know your name a - right.  
18 e'er be - hold you face to face.  
8 to God! The Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!  
23 To You, Lord all praise! The Trin - i - ty,  
28 for e - ter - ni - ty!

Glory to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessed Trinity, be praise throughout eternity!

*(Chorus x2)*

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 Corinthians 13

<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

<sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

## SERMON (Rev. Pat Roach • Reformed University Fellowship)

**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 Apostles' Creed

What do you believe?

*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 glasses on your right contain grape juice for those who do not want wine.

<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."

# Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted

Text: Thomas Kelly • Music: Phillip Palmertree • Public Domain



Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed see Him  
Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing was there  
Ye who think of \_\_\_\_\_ sin but light - ly \_\_\_\_\_ nor sup -  
Here we have a \_\_\_\_\_ firm foun - da - tion \_\_\_\_\_ Here the



dy - ing on the tree! 'Tis the Christ by  
ev - er grief like His? Friends thro' fear His  
pose \_\_\_\_\_ the ev - il great Here may view its \_\_\_\_\_  
re - fuge of the lost; Christ's the Rock of \_\_\_\_\_



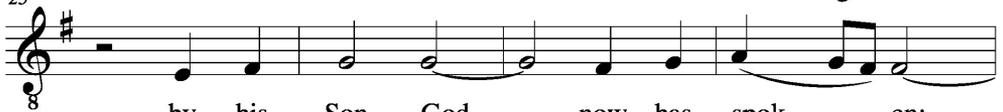
man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis  
cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing His dis -  
\_\_\_\_\_ nat - ure right - ly \_\_\_\_\_ here its guilt \_\_\_\_\_ may est - i -  
16 \_\_\_\_\_ our sal - va - tion, \_\_\_\_\_ His the name \_\_\_\_\_ of which we



He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et,  
tress; man - y hands were raised to wound Him,  
mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed \_\_\_\_\_  
21 boast. Lamb of God, for \_\_\_\_\_ sin - ners wound - ed \_\_\_\_\_



Dav - id's son, yet Da - vid's Lord;  
\_\_\_\_\_ none would in - ter - pose \_\_\_\_\_ to save;  
\_\_\_\_\_ see who bears the aw - ful - load;  
25 \_\_\_\_\_ sac - ri - fice to can - cel \_\_\_\_\_ guilt!



by his Son God now has spok - en:  
but the deep - est stroke that pierced Him,  
'Tis the Word the \_\_\_\_\_ Lord's an - noint - ed \_\_\_\_\_  
29 None shall ev - er \_\_\_\_\_ be con - found \_\_\_\_\_ ed \_\_\_\_\_



'tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Son of Man \_\_\_\_\_ and Son of God.  
\_\_\_\_\_ who on Him \_\_\_\_\_ their hope have built.

# 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  
4 Je - sus lives, and reigns su - preme; and, His king - dom  
7 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  
10 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  
15 be it must, Je - sus is my hope and trust!\_  
21 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)*

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.

~

**Pat Roach** • Pat is the Western Regional Coordinator for Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org). Pat and Ashley have three children: Mary, Anna, and James.

**Mercy Sunday** • Today. 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).

**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.

**Women’s Discipleship Study** • 9:30am Fri., 2/6, 2/20, and 3/6, location TBA. Larissa Friesen (larissaelaborates@gmail.com) is leading discussions of *The Trellis And The Vine*, by Marshall and Payne.

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

Today: \_\_\_\_ Next Sunday: Friesen

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

Today: Costa Next Sunday: K. Boden

**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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(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.