



ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Genesis 1-3: "The Beginning Of The End"
March 8, 2015

Gustave Doré, "The Creation Of Light" (1866)


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 99:9

Exalt the LORD our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy!

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...**

Holy God We Praise Thy Name

Text: Ignaz Franz • Music: *Te Deum* • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God we praise Thy name Lord of all we bow be - fore Thee; All on earth Thy scep - ter claim; All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy vast do - main; Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign." The score includes measure numbers 5, 10, 15, and 20. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.

Ho - ly God we praise Thy name
Lord of all we bow be - fore Thee; All on
earth Thy scep - ter claim; All in heav'n a -
bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy vast do -
main; Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising,
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord!"

Lo! the apostolic train join the sacred Name to hallow;
prophets swell the loud refrain, and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun, through the Church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name thee;
while in essence only One, undivided God we claim thee;
and adoring bend the knee, while we own the mystery.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Acts 2:38

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Acts 4:12

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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

OFFERING • 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to 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 to learn more about prayer.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Ephesians 5:22-33

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.

Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ

Text: Horatius Bonar • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Thy works, not mine, O
Thy pains, not mine, O
Thy cross, not mine, O

2
8 Christ, speak glad-ness to this heart;
Christ, u - pon the shame-ful tree,
Christ, has borne the aw - ful load,

5
8 They tell me all is done; they bid my fear de -
have paid the law's full price and pur - chased peace for
of sins that none in heav'n or earth could bear but

7
8 part. To whom, save Thee, who
me.
God.

10
8 canst a - lone for sin a - tone, Lord, shall I flee? To

13
8 whom, save Thee, who canst a - lone for sin a - tone, Lord,

16
8 shall I flee?

Thy righteousness, O Christ, alone can cover me;
no righteousness avails save that which is of thee.

(Chorus)

The Trinity For Eternity

Text: Catherine Winkworth • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

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!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18-25

²⁶ God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them...

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." ¹⁹ Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

²³ Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man."

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "Marriage" (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.



Mandy Grace '10

ministry-to-children.com



THE UPPER ROOM



VOWS FOR MEMBERSHIP

VOWS FOR INFANT BAPTISM (Jeremy Brian Aznoe)

French Reformed Baptismal Liturgy • Little child, for you Jesus Christ has come, he has fought, he has suffered. For you he entered the shadow of Gethsemane and the horror of Calvary. For you he uttered the cry, "It is finished!" For you he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven and there he intercedes—for you, little child, even though you do not know it. But in this way the word of the Gospel becomes true. "We love him, because he first loved us."

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 • 1 Corinthians 11:26; 5:7-8

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.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

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. Gluten-free crackers are available on the table.

There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood

Text: William Cowper • Music: Lowell Mason • Public Domain



There is a foun - tain filled with blood drawn
The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that
Dear dy - ing Lamb, Thy pre - cious blood shall
For since by faith I saw the stream Thy
3 Then in a no - bler, sweet - er song I'll



from I - man - uels' veins; and sin - ners plunged be -
foun - tain in his day; and there may I though
nev - er lose its power till all the ran - somed
flow - ing wounds sup - ply, Re - deem - ing love has
6 sing Thy pow'r to save: When this poor lisp - ing



neath that flood lose all their guil - ty stains; lose
vile as he, wash all my sins a - way: wash
church of God are saved to sin no more: are
been my theme and shall be till I die. And
9 stamm' ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave. Lies



all their guil - ty stains lose all their guil - ty
all my sins a - way wash all my sins a -
saved to sin no more, are saved to sin no
shall be till I die and shall be till I
12 si - lent in the grave, lies si - lent in the



stains and sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose
way; and there may I though vile as he, wash
more; till all the ran - somed church of God are
die; Re - deem - ing love has been my theme and
15 grave; when this poor lisp - ing stamm' - ring tongue lies



all their guil - ty stains.
all my sins a - way.
saved, to sin no more.
shall be till I die.
si - lent in the grave.

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.

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.

~

Sunday School • Today we will forego Sunday School, due to construction in the areas we normally use for classroom space.

Gospel-Centered Life Home Group • Today after Worship at the home of Joe and Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany St., Tigard). Everyone is invited to join us for lunch, prayer, and conversation—children are always welcome!

It Takes A Church Home Group • Next Sunday (Mar. 15) after Worship and Sunday School at the home of Eric and Jerilee Costa. (Normally this group meets on the fourth Sunday of the month, but that's the beginning of Spring Break!) We'll begin discussing the centrality of the Church in Christian spirituality using Tod Bolsinger's book, *It Takes A Church To Raise A Christian*.

Women's Study • In April, the women will also begin a study of Tod Bolsinger's book, *It Takes A Church To Raise A Christian* (the same book being discussed in the home group meeting at the Costa home). Join us at 9am Thursdays at the home of Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany St., Tigard). Contact Larissa Friesen (larissaelaborates@gmail.com) if you are interested!

Church Campout • Aug. 28-30 (Friday through Sunday) at Oxbow Regional Park in Gresham on the Sandy River. *More details forthcoming...*

Music Group • 6:30pm Wednesdays at the Costa home. Contact: Kady Boden (kady@ascensionpc.org).

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

Today: Costa Next Sunday: Sery

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

Today: _____ Next Sunday: Friesen

Regular Gatherings • For information about our meetings like home groups and bible studies for men and women, visit ascensionpc.org/calendar.



Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from
The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®),
copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Printed songs are used by permission under CCLI license #11109756.

Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro
ascensionpc.org • [facebook.com/ascensionpc](https://www.facebook.com/ascensionpc) • twitter.com/ascensionpc

(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.