



ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Genesis 1-3: "The Beginning Of The End"
April 5, 2015

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


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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...**

Worship Christ, The Risen King

Text: Jack W. Hayford • Music: Henry T. Smart

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The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Worship Christ, The Risen King'. It is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The score consists of a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with line numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 indicating the start of each line. The lyrics are: 'Rise, O church and lift your voices, See the tomb where death has laid Him, Hear the earth protest and tremble, Doubt may lift its head to murmur, We ac-claim your life, O Je-sus, Christ has con- quered death and hell. emp- ty now, its mouth de- clares: see the stone re- moved with pow'r; scoff- ers mock and sin- ners jeer; now we sing your vic- tor- y; Sing as all the earth re- joic- es; "Death and I could not con- tain him, all hell's min- ions may as- sem- ble, But the truth pro- claims a won- der, Sin or hell may seek to seize us, res- ur- rec- tion an- them swell. for the throne of life He shares." but can not with- stand His hour. thought- ful hearts re- ceive with cheer. but your con- quest keeps us free. Come and wor- ship, come and wor- ship, Come and wor- ship, come and wor- ship, He has con- quered, He has con- quered, He is ris- en, He is ris- en, Stand in tri- umph, stand in tri- umph, wor- ship Christ, the ris- en King! wor- ship Christ, the ris- en King! Christ the Lord, the ris- en King! now re- ceive the ris- en King! wor- ship Christ, the ris- en King!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 2 Corinthians 5:20b

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father of mercies, we confess that we have sinned against you. By your Holy Spirit, come and work repentance into our hearts. Help us to see you as you are: with outstretched arms, a loving heart, and power to save. Help us to see Jesus, the friend of sinners, and to follow him more faithfully. As we have received him, so strengthen us to walk in him, depend on him, commune with him, and be conformed to him. Give us an experience of your grace that makes us bold for others, that we might joyfully tell our friends and neighbors of your saving mercy. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • 1 John 3:16-18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and truth.

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.

GOSPEL READING • Luke 24:13-35

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

(Te Deum Laudamus, 5th Century)

You are God.

We praise you!

You are the Lord.

We acclaim you!

You are the eternal Father.

All creation worships you!

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might, Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory!

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you.

Father, of majesty unbounded,

Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free,
you did not shun the Virgin’s womb.

*You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.*

You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

Amen.

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Easter Hymn • Public Domain

Alto

Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day Al - - - le -
lu - ia! sons of men and an - gels say
Al - - - le - lu - ia! raise your joys and
tri - umphs high; Al - - - le - lu - ia!
sing ye heav'n's and earth re - ply. Al - - - le -
lu - ia!

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The music is in a major key. The lyrics are: 'Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day Al - - - le - lu - ia! sons of men and an - gels say Al - - - le - lu - ia! raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Al - - - le - lu - ia! sing ye heav'n's and earth re - ply. Al - - - le - lu - ia!'.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!
Christ hath burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids his rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

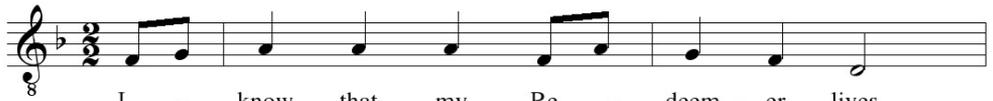
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

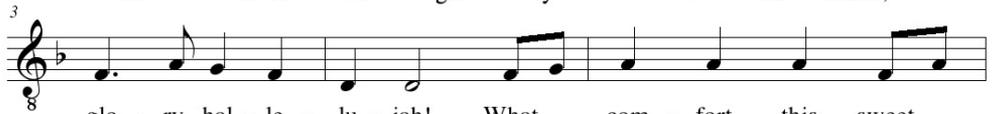
Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n; Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

I Know That My Redeemer Lives—Glory, Hallelujah!

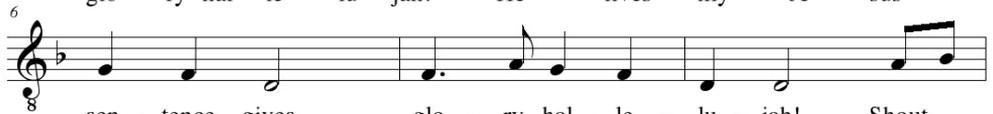
Text: Samuel Medley • Music: American Folk Hymn • Public Domain



I - know that my Re - deem - er lives,
He lives, he lives, who once was dead,
He lives to bless me with his love,
He lives all glo - ry to his name,



glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! What com - fort this sweet
glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He lives, my ev - er -
glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! He lives to plead for
glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! He lives my Je - sus



sen - tence gives, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Shout
last - ing Head, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
me a - bove, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
still the same, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!



on, pray on, we're gain - ing ground, glo - ry, hal - le -



lu - jah! The dead's a - live and the lost is found,



glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Genesis 3:6-8

⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Exposed” (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.



HE LIVES

JOY

OUR LIGHT HAS COME!

PRAISE God!

HE IS RISEN

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THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 60

How are you right with God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. 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 • 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

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. Gluten-free crackers are available on the table.

At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Text: Robert Campbell • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our vic - to - rious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
flow - ing from His pierc - ed side;
Praise we Him whose love di - vine
gives His sa - cred blood for wine,
gives His bod - y for the feast,
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed: paschal victim, paschal bread.
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light.
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit ever be.

Jesus Lives And So Shall I

Text: Christian F. Gellert • Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

1 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,
10 still re - main - ing. I shall al - so be with Him,
15 lives, the bands of death to sev - er. He shall raise me
21 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
be it must, Je - sus is my hope and trust! —
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 • Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

~

Sunday School • There will be no Sunday School today.

Mercy Supper • 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).

Women's Study • In April, the women will 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!

Gospel-Centered Life Home Group • Sun., Apr. 12 after Worship and Sunday School, at the home of Joe and Cindy Pope. Join us for lunch, prayer, and conversation about the centrality of the Gospel in our lives and relationships. Children are welcome. RSVP to Joe (joepope@comcast.net).

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: Pope

Next Sunday: Friesen

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

Today: (Easter Breakfast)

Next Sunday: Hatch

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 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.