

"Should not the contemplation of the mysteries of our faith be a delight, especially if the contemplation is that of the immeasurable and unsurpassable font of all the mysteries—the most holy Trinity?"

Thomas Weinandy, *The Father's Spirit of Sonship*

"Due to the invisibility and anonymity of the Spirit, his presence is not normally noted, even though it may be known that he is present. His presence is known by what he does... The New Testament portrays the Holy Spirit as active at every stage of redemption, especially in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, from conception to ascension."

Robert Letham, *The Holy Trinity*



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship on the Lord's Day

May 1, 2016



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."

And let the one who hears say, "Come."

And let the one who is thirsty come;

let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

O Worship The King

Text: Robert Grant (Psalm 104) • Music: Johann Michael Haydn • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are: "O wor-ship the King all - glo-rious a - bove, O grate-ful - ly sing his pow'r and his love; our shield and De - fend-er the An-cient of Days, pa - vil-ioned in splen-dor and gird - ed with praise." The score includes measure numbers 4, 8, 12, and 16. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests. The final measure ends with a double bar line.

O wor-ship the King all - glo-rious a -
bove, O grate-ful - ly sing his pow'r and his
love; our shield and De - fend-er the An-cient of
Days, pa - vil-ioned in splen-dor and gird - ed with
praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 Peter 1:18-19

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Forgive us, Father, for we have sinned. We rely too much on our own achievements and estimations to gauge our relationship with you. We spend too much time trying to get into a place where you have already brought us. We try to earn your favor, not recognizing that, in doing so, we belittle what you have already done. We are slow to believe in your great mercy, and quick to think that, surely, there is more to be done by us. Forgive us for our attempts to rewrite your offer of grace. We stand before you as sinners without excuse, without merit. Forgive us. Thank you that, even still, due to the sacrifice of your Son, you look upon us with pride and great joy. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Genesis 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

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...

Almighty God who is from everlasting to everlasting, grant us, amidst the conflicts of this world, the comfort of a perfect trust in you.

From pride and selfishness, greed and anger, spring passions that lead to war among brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as war among nations:

Save and help us, O Lord.

For all who are afflicted by war within themselves, by the conflicts of doubt, a rebellious will, and the darkness of despair:

Save and help us, O Lord.

For all who suffer in body and circumstance, the sick, the poor, and the prisoner, that they would be touched by your compassion in their time of need:

Save and help us, O Lord.

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.

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots • Music: *Kentucky Harmony* (1820), arr. Chip Ueltschey

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive'. It consists of five staves of music, each with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words connected by hyphens to indicate they span across multiple notes. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, with measure numbers 1, 3, 5, and 7 indicated at the beginning of their respective staves. The lyrics are as follows:

1 "For - give our sins as we ___ for - give," you
How can your par - don reach ___ and ___ bless the
In blaz - ing light your cross ___ re - veals the
Lord, cleanse the depths with - in ___ our ___ souls, and

3 taught us, Lord, to pray; but
un - for - giv - ing heart that
truth we dim - ly knew: what
bid re - sent - ment cease; then,

5 you a - lone can grant ___ us ___ grace to
broods on ___ wrongs and will ___ not ___ let old
triv - ial ___ debts are owed ___ to ___ us, how
bound to ___ all in bonds ___ of ___ love, our

7 live the words we say.
bit - ter - ness de - part?
great our debt to you!
lives will spread your peace.

Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place

Text: Psalm 90 (1912 Psalter) • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

Lord, you have been our dwelling
place through all the a - ges of our race. Be - fore you
gave the moun - tains birth or by your word cre - at - ed the
earth. From ev - er - last - ing you are
God, to ev - er - last - ing our a - bode.

A thousand years are in your sight
brief as a portion of the night.
Short as a dream our seasons pass;
our lives are like the tender grass,
Luxuriant at the break of day,
that in the evening fades away.

Your anger brings us sorrow, grief;
your wrath brings fear without relief.
Before your clear and searching sight
our secret sins are brought to light.
Beneath your wrath we pine and die,
our life expiring with a sigh.

O teach us, Lord, to count our days
and set our hearts on wisdom's ways.
Turn, Lord, to us in our distress,
in pity now your servants bless.
Let mercy's dawn dispel our night
and all our day with joy be bright.

Let mercy's dawn dispel our night
and all our day with joy be bright.

GOSPEL READING • Luke 1:26-35

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

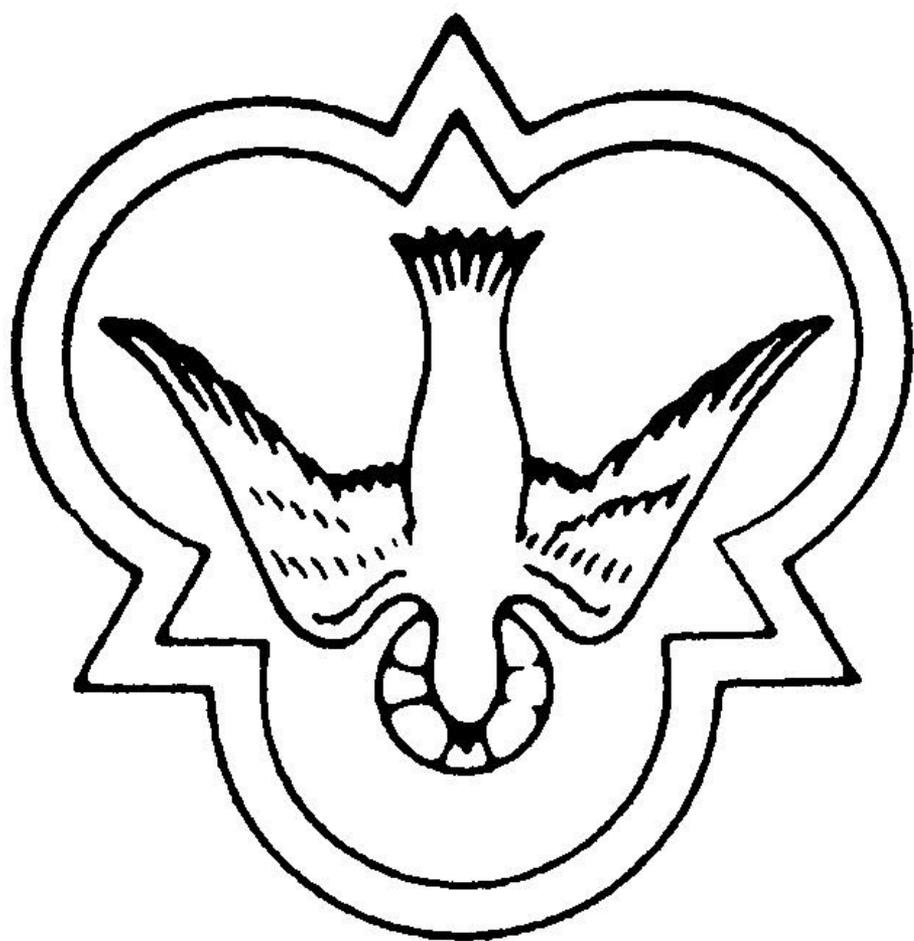
³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • "The Giver of Life" (Rev. Eric Costa)





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Nicene Creed

What do you believe?

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

And we 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 we 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 we believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we 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 one another 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

(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. There are gluten-free crackers on the table. An Elder is available in the back for prayer [James 5:13-16].)

¹ Or, “universal.”

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.

Love Me To The End

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: Jeff Koonce • ©2006 Red Mountain Music

Tenor



8 A beg - ar poor, at mer - cy's door, lies
A wick - ed heart is no small part, of
3 My stub - born will op - pos - es still, Thy
such a wretch as I; Thou know'st my need is
my dist - ress and shame; Let sover - eign grace its
6 wise and ho - ly hand; Thy spi - rit send to
great in - deed, Lord hear me when I cry.
crimes ef - face, through Jes - sus' bles - sed name.
9 make it bend, to Thy su - preme com - mand.
8 With guilt be - set and deep in debt, for
My dark - ened mind I dail - y find, is
11 Af - fect - ions wild by sin def - iled, oft
pard - on Lord, I pray; O let Thy love suf -
prone to go as - tray; Lord on it shine with
14 hur - ry me a - way; Lord, bring them home nor
fi - cient prove, to take my sins a - way.
light di - vine, and guide it in Thy way.
let them roam, from Christ the Li - ving Way.

Before thy face I've told my case; Lord help and mercy send;
pity my soul and make me whole, and love me to the end.

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.

~

Remember: every gathering is an opportunity to invite a friend, to introduce people to the Christ-centered community and life of the church!

Sunday School • After Worship, and some time for conversation and coffee, join us for Sunday School. Kids will meet in the sanctuary before going to their classes. Adults will meet in the fellowship hall for sermon discussion (young children are welcome to accompany their parents).

Mercy Sunday • 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 a great opportunity to talk with our kids about generosity and service as a regular part of our lives as Christians.

Rejoicing in Christ Home Group • Next Sunday (May 8), at the home of Joe & Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany, Tigard). Join us for lunch and conversation about chapter 3 of Michael Reeves' book. RSVP (joepope@comcast.net).

"I'm Hooked" • Sat. - Sun., June 4-5. Free fishing weekend at Hagg Lake. Registration opens Apr. 1 (imhookedinc.org). See Robert Spracklen for details.

Church Campout • Fri. - Sun., Aug. 19-21, at the Deschutes River State Rec. Area. Mark your calendars! We'll join our sister congregation, Hope (Portland), for the weekend. Stay tuned for more details...

Musicians • Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 at the Costa home for fellowship and preparation for the coming Sunday. Families are welcome. Contact Kady Boden (kady@ascensionpc.org).

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

Today: Jaques Next Sunday: Childers

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

Today: K. Boden Next Sunday: _____

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



Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro
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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.