

"One feels on holy ground when entering the Prologue to the Gospel [of John]. Here we have the overture to the symphony of the whole gospel, the preface to the greatest story ever told, the introduction to history's central fact, the foreword to the Last Word, and the preamble to the realities most trusted by the worldwide Church."

Frederick Dale Bruner

"The solution [to] the riddle of life in space and time  
lies outside space and time."

Ludwig Wittgenstein

# ASCENSION

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## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship on the Lord's Day  
August 28, 2016



THE WORD

**CALL TO WORSHIP • 1 Chronicles 16:23-25**

Sing to the LORD, all the earth! 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,  
and he is to be held in awe above all gods.

# Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Text: Joachim Neander • Music: Ernewerten Gesangbuch • Public Domain



Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y the King of cre -  
Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so won - drous - ly  
Praise to the Lord, Who doth pros - per thy work and de -  
Praise to the Lord, Who with mar - ve - lous wis - dom hath  
Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul praise Him for  
reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der His  
fend - thee; sure - ly His good - ness and  
made thee; Decked thee with health and with  
dore Him! All that hath life and breath,



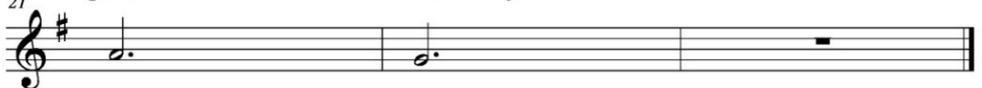
He is thy health and sal - va - tion!  
wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth!  
mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.  
lov - ing hand guid - ed and stayed thee.  
come now with prais - es be - fore Him.



All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw  
Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y will  
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee re -  
Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a -



near, \_\_\_\_\_ join me in glad a - dor -  
been \_\_\_\_\_ grant - ed in what He or -  
do, \_\_\_\_\_ if with His love He be -  
lief, \_\_\_\_\_ Spread - ing His wings to o'er  
gain, \_\_\_\_\_ Glad - ly for - ev - er a -



a - - - - tion.  
dain - - - - eth?  
friend thee.  
shade thee!  
dore Him.

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 44:21-22**

Remember these things, O Jacob,

and Israel, for you are my servant;

I formed you; you are my servant;

O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.

I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud

and your sins like a mist;

return to me, for I have redeemed you.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*We confess, our Father, that we do not live up to the family name. We are more ready to resent than to forgive, more ready to manipulate than to serve, more ready to fear than to love, more ready to keep our distance than to welcome, more ready to compete than to help. At the root of this behavior is mistrust. We do not love one another as we should, because we do not believe that you love us as you do. Forgive us our cold unbelief. And make more vivid to us the meaning and depth of your love at the cross. Show us what it cost you to give up your Son that we might become your sons and daughters. We ask this in the name of Jesus our righteousness. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 44:23**

Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it;

shout, O depths of the earth;

break forth into singing, O mountains,

O forest, and every tree in it!

For the LORD has redeemed Jacob,

and will be glorified in Israel.

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.*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 129**

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, Father of all mercies, we, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

*We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

*not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

# O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Text: George Matheson • Music: Christopher Miner • ©1997 Christopher Miner



O Love that will not let me go, I  
O Light that follow'st all my way, I  
O Joy that seek'st me through pain, I  
O Cross that lift'st up my head, I



rest my weary soul in thee; I  
yield my flick'ring torch to thee; My  
can not close my heart to thee; I  
dare not ask to fly from thee; I



give thee back the life I owe, That  
heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray, That  
trace the rain-bow through the rain, And  
lay in dust life's glo-ry dead, And



in thine ocean depths its flow May  
in thy sun-shine's blaze its day May  
feel the promise is not vain, That  
from the ground there blossoms red Life



ri-cher, full-er be.  
bright-er, fair-er be.  
morn shall tear-less be.  
that shall end-less be.

# My Jesus, As Thou Wilt

Text: Benjamin Schmolck • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

My Je-sus as Thou wilt: O may Thy will be—  
My Je-sus as Thou wilt: Though seen through man - y a  
mine! In - to Thy hand of— love I would my all re -  
tear, Let not my star of— hope grow dim or dis - a -  
sign. Through sor - row or through joy, con -  
pear. Since Thou on earth hast— wept and  
duct me as Thine own, and help me still to— say, "My  
sor - rowed oft a - lone, if I must weep with Thee, "My  
Lord, Thy will be— done." A - men!— A -  
Lord, Thy will be— done."  
men!— A - - - men!—

My Jesus, as thou wilt: all shall be well for me;  
each changing future scene I gladly trust with thee.  
Straight to my home above, I travel calmly on,  
and sing in life or death, "My Lord, thy will be done."  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
Amen.

**GOSPEL READING • John 1:1-5**

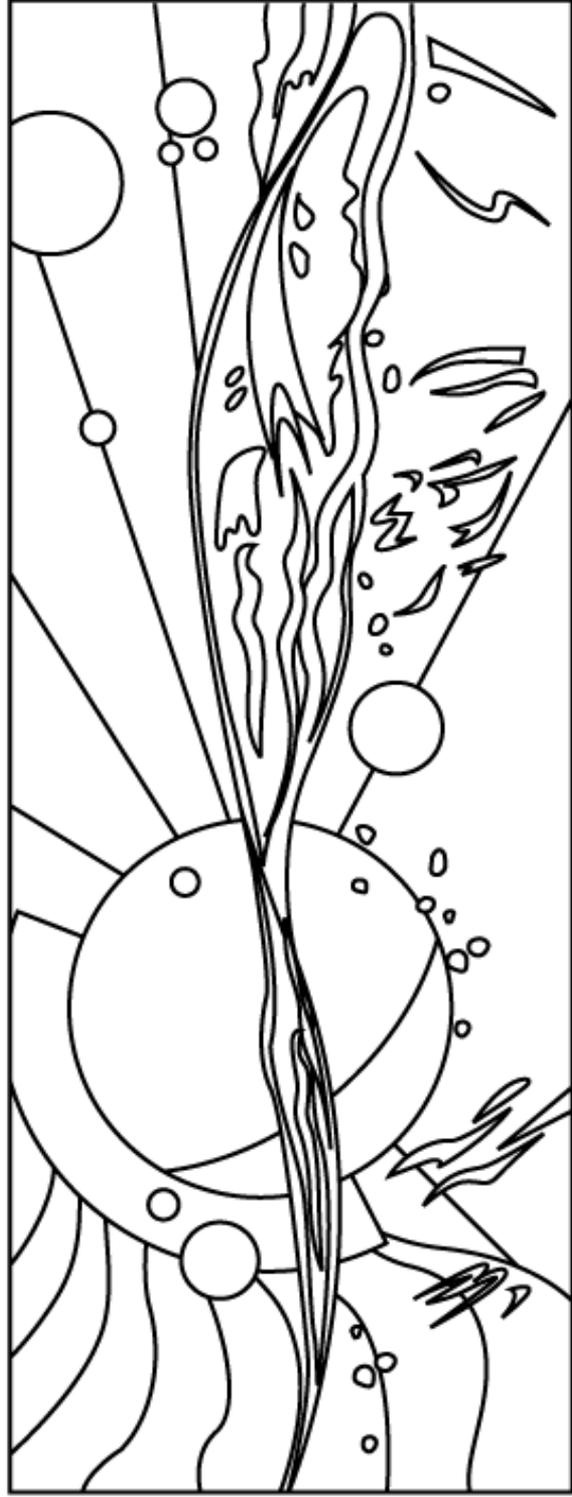
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Thanks be to God!*

**SERMON • The Good Word (Rev. Eric Costa)**

God created the heaven and the earth.



Day 1



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 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].)

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<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.”

# A Sinner's Cry

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



8 Hear, grac-ious God, a sin - er's\_ cry; for  
To Thee I come a sin - er\_\_ poor, and  
5 To Thee I come a sin - er\_\_ weak, and  
8 I have no - where else\_\_ to\_\_ fly. My  
wait for mer - cy at\_\_ Thy\_\_ door. In -  
9 scarce know how to pray or\_\_ speak. From  
8 hope, my on - ly hope's in Thee,\_\_ O\_\_  
deed I've no - where else\_\_ to flee,\_\_ O\_\_  
13 fear and weak-ness set\_\_ me free,\_\_ O\_\_  
8 God, be mer - ci-ful to me. O God, be\_\_  
God, be mer - ci-ful to me.  
18 God, be mer - ci-ful to me.  
8 mer - ci-ful to me! On You alone I rest my  
23 plea; I have no o-ther place to flee,\_\_  
28 O\_\_ God, be\_\_ mer - ci-ful to me.

To thee I come, a sinner vile;  
upon me, Lord, vouchsafe to smile;  
mercy, through blood, I make my plea,  
O God, be merciful to me.

*(Chorus)*

To thee I come, a sinner great;  
and well thou knowest all my state.  
Yet full forgiveness is with thee,  
O God, be merciful to me.

*(Chorus)*

O God, be merciful to me.

# Of The Father's Love Begotten

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413 • Music: *Divinum Mysterium*, 11<sup>th</sup> c.



Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the  
O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the  
This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of  
O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel  
3 Christ to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O



worlds be - gan to be. he is Al - pha and O - me -  
Vir - gin, full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv -  
old with one ac - cord, Whom the Scrip - tures of the proph -  
hosts, his prais - es sing; All do - min - ions, bow be - fore  
6 Ho - ly Ghost, to thee, Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiv -



ga, he the Source, the End - ing he. Of the  
ing bore the Sav - ior of our race; and the  
ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word; Now he  
him and ex - tol our God and King; Let no  
9 ing, and un - wear - ied prais - es be, Ho - nor,



things that are that have - been, and that  
babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re -  
shines, the long - ex - pect - ed; Let cre -  
tongue on earth be si - lent, Ev' - ry  
9 glo - ry, and do - min - ion, And e -



fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ever - more!  
vealed his sa - red face, ev - er - more and ever - more!  
a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ever - more!  
voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ever - more!  
12 ter - nal vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ever - more!

## BENEDICTION • 2 Corinthians 13:11

Finally, brothers, rejoice.  
Aim for restoration, comfort one another,  
agree with one another, live in peace;  
and the God of love and peace will be with you.

~

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

**Mercy Sunday** • Sun., Sept. 4... *Almsgiving* during Communion... *The Backpack Project* after Worship.

**Monthly Men's Breakfast** • 7:30am Sat., Sept. 10 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street).

**Regular Gatherings** • For information about our meetings like home groups, bible studies for men and women, and more, please visit [ascensionpc.org/calendar](http://ascensionpc.org/calendar).

### Nursery Volunteers

Today: Childers      Next Sunday: Aznoe

### Refreshments Volunteers

(Contact: Nicole Hamilton, [neh.hamilton@gmail.com](mailto:neh.hamilton@gmail.com))

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



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

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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.