

“Children I have reared and brought up,
but they have rebelled against me.

The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib,
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.”

The LORD, *Isaiah 1:2-3*

“Every believer's new birth or regeneration is, in origin,
a veritable 'virgin birth,' a birth given by another.”

Frederick Dale Bruner

ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship on the Lord's Day
September 4, 2016



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Nehemiah 9:5-6

Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text & Music: Martin Luther (1529) • Public Domain

Alto

A might - y for - tress is our God, a
bul-wark nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a -
mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For
still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his
craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cru - el
hate, on earth is not his e - qual.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:
dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his Name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us:
the Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
his kingdom is forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 45:22, 24a

“Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.
Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength.”

CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, you sent Jesus to be for us the way, the truth, and the life. We confess that we have turned aside to our own way, have ignored your precious word, and have sought to find happiness outside of your will and apart from you. In your mercy forgive us. We would flee to no other refuge, build on no other foundation, receive from no other fullness, rest in no other relief; but alone entrust ourselves to Jesus' saving power, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

Because of [God] you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 130

A SONG OF ASCENTS.

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!
2 O Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!
- 3 If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
4 But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.
- 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
6 my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 7 O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.
8 And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

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...

Lord, you built your church and promised to dwell with her forever.

Bless all who guard and feed your sheep, those who shepherd souls, those who care for the poor, those who minister praise, as well as those who teach your Word, that, as you are lifted up, men and women will be drawn to you.

Lord, likewise, you rule over all the nations of the earth.

We pray for peace in every corner of the world: where there is war, where there is persecution, where there is starvation, where there is sickness, as well as every nation where there is suffering, that you will be glorified among the nations.

Lord, out of the depths of eternity you moved in history in the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him was life and the life was our light. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Cause that light to shine ever brighter in us and through us. Amen.

The Lamb Has Overcome

Music and Lyrics: Luke Morton • ©2011 Cardiphonia Music

The Lamb has ov - er - come, the
Lamb has ov - er - come; the bat - tle's done and the
vic-to-ry is won, for the Lamb has ov-er - come! No
grave could hold Him down, no grave could hold Him
down; up from the ground, "He is
ri-sen!" was the sound, no grave could hold Him down.
At God's right hand is He, at
God's right hand is He; our per - fect plea as He
lives to in-ter-cede, at God's right hand is He! Wor-thy
is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry be un - to His
name! Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry
be un - to His name!

The table now is spread, the table now is spread;
the wine and bread, broken body and blood shed, the table now is spread.

The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near;
he shall appear and wipe away each tear, the day is drawing near!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!

(Repeat 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!

GOSPEL READING • John 1:6-13

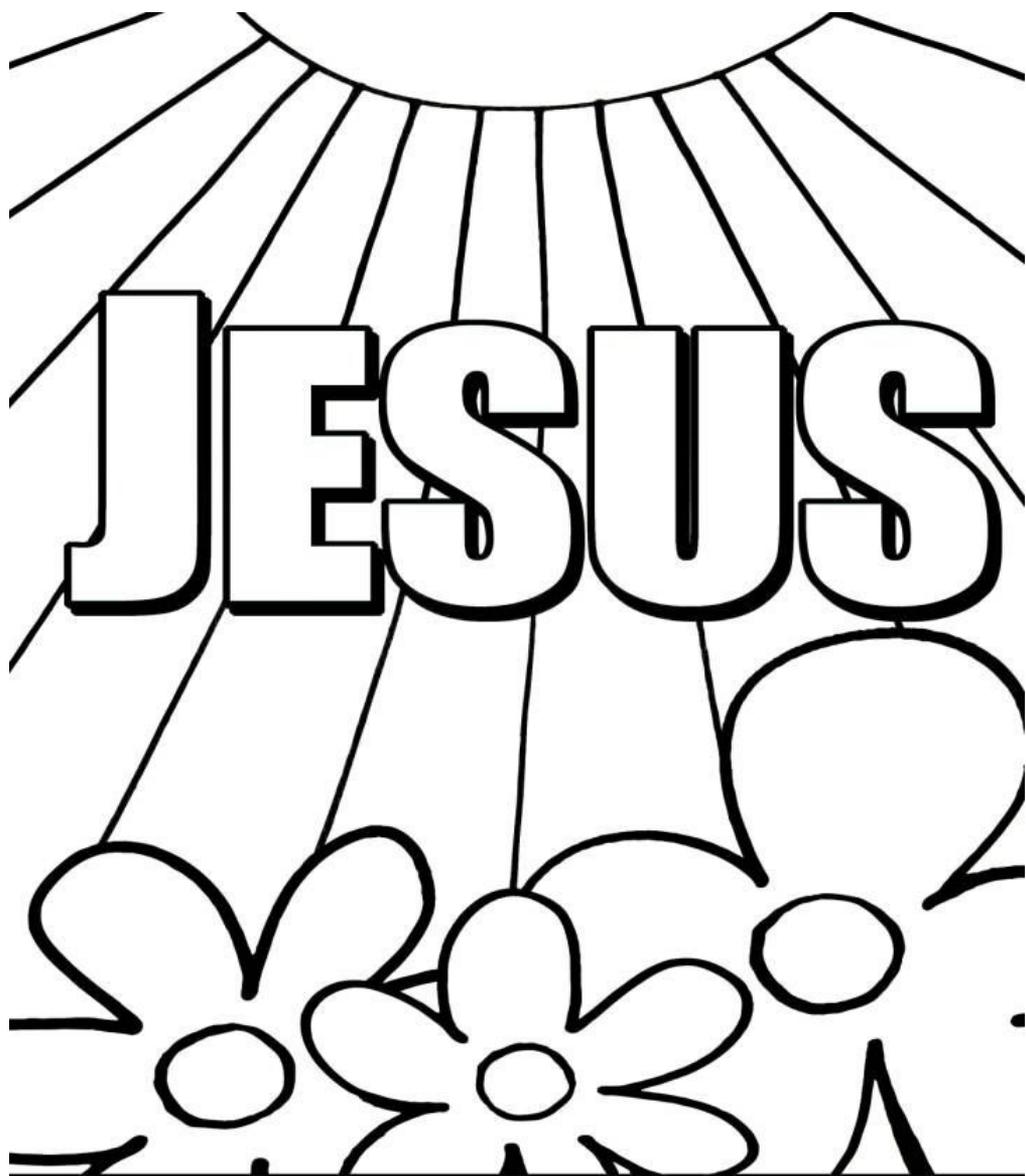
⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “The True Light” (Rev. Eric Costa)



Jesus is the Light of the World!



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 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].)

Man Of Sorrows

Text and Music: Phillip Bliss • Public Domain



Man of sor - rows what a name____
Bear - ing shame____ and scoff - ing rude,____
Guil - ty, vile,____ and help - less we;____
Lift - ed up____ was He to die;____
When He comes,____ our glor - ious King,____



for the Son of God who came____
in my place con - demned He stood;____
spot - less Lamb of God was He;____
"It is fin - ished!" was His cry;____
all His ran - somed home to bring,____



ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim____ Hal - le -
Sealed my par - don with His blood.____ Hal - le -
"Full a - tone - ment!" can it be?____ Hal - le -
Now in heav'n____ ex - al - ted high.____ Hal - le -
Then a - new____ His song we'll sing:____ Hal - le -



lu - jah!____ What a Sav - ior!____
lu - jah!____ What a Sav - ior!____

I'll Fly Away

Text & Music: Albert E. Brumley (1929) • Public Domain

Some bright morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away!
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away!

(Chorus)

*I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away!
When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away!*

When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away!
Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly, I'll fly away!

(Chorus)

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away!
To a land where joys will never end, I'll fly away!

(Chorus)

BENEDICTION • Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

~

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). Each time we meet we discuss a phrase of the Apostles' Creed. This time: "Born of the Virgin Mary." RSVP and let Eric know if you can help by bringing part of the meal (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

Women's Night • 7:45pm Fri., Sept. 16 at Rainy Aznoe's house (17500 SW Seiffert Road, Sherwood). Bring a beverage or treat to share. RSVP (rainyrr@aol.com).

Women's Retreat • Oct. 14-16 in Lincoln City. Contact: Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@gmail.com).

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

Nursery Volunteers

Today: Aznoe Next Sunday: Costa

Refreshments Volunteers

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

Today: Costa Next Sunday: _____



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.