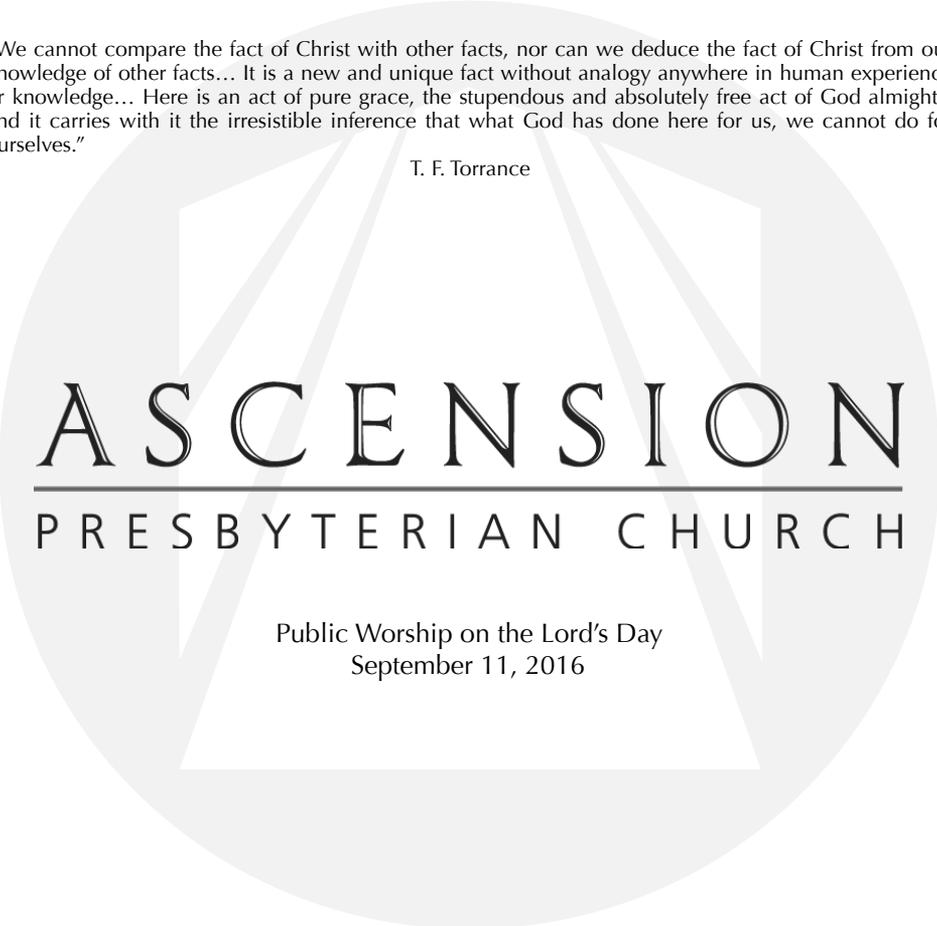


"The Incarnation is a greater mystery than that of creation. We cannot too often meditate on these things. It is the life and soul of a Christian. It is the marrow of the gospel. It is the wonder of wonders. We need not wonder at anything after this."

Richard Sibbes

"We cannot compare the fact of Christ with other facts, nor can we deduce the fact of Christ from our knowledge of other facts... It is a new and unique fact without analogy anywhere in human experience or knowledge... Here is an act of pure grace, the stupendous and absolutely free act of God almighty, and it carries with it the irresistible inference that what God has done here for us, we cannot do for ourselves."

T. F. Torrance



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship on the Lord's Day
September 11, 2016



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 29:2

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

All Praise To God Who Reigns Above

Text: Johann Schultz • Music: *Mit Freuden Zart*, arr. Ascension Presbyterian Church

8 All — praise to God who reigns a - bove the —
What — God's al - might - y pow'r hath made his —
I — cried to him in time of need: Lord —
The — Lord for - sak - eth not his flock, his —
Ye — who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, to —
3 Then — come be - fore His pre - sence now and —

8 God of all cre - a - tion the — God of won - ders
grac - ious mer - cy keep - eth. By — morn - ing glow or
God, O hear my — call - ing! For — death he gave me
chos - en gen - er — a - tion; He — is their re - fuge
God give praise and — glo - ry! Ye — who the Fath - er's
6 ba - nish fear and — sad - ness; To — your Re - deem - er

8 powr and love, the — God of our sal - va - tion! With
eve - ning shade his — watch - ful eye ne'er — sleep - eth; With -
life in - deed and — kept my feet from — fall - ing. For
and their rock, their — peace and their sal - va - tion. As
pow'r pro - claim, to — God give praise and — glo - ry! All
9 pay your vow and — sing with joy and — glad - ness: Though

8 heal - ing balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - ery
in the king - dom of his might, Lo! all is just and
this my thanks shall end - less be; O thank him, thank our
with a moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his own, his
i - dols un - der foot be trod, the Lord is God! The
12 great dis - tress my soul be - fell, the Lord, my God, did

8 sor - row stills. To God all praise and — glo - ry!
all is right, To God all praise and — glo - ry!
God with me, To God all praise and — glo - ry!
cho - sen band. To God all praise and — glo - ry!
Lord is God! To God all praise and — glo - ry!
all things well, To God all praise and — glo - ry!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 50:7-9a

The Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like a flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

CONFESSION OF SIN

Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to you and ask that you forgive us and cover us in Christ. Let us hear your voice telling us that his blood is our peace, his death our freedom, his smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that your service is perfect freedom. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 8:31, 33-34

If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who is interceding for us.

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 • Psalm 131

A SONG OF ASCENTS. OF DAVID.

- 1 O LORD, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.
- 2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child is my soul within me.
- 3 O Israel, hope in the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore.

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...

Jesus, remember us when you come in your kingdom,

Have mercy upon us and hear our prayers.

For all who carry out your ministries within your church,

We ask for grace and wisdom.

For those who don't yet believe the gospel,

We ask for your faithful love.

For governors and rulers in every land,

We ask for your guidance.

For people who suffer and grieve,

We ask for your healing peace.

Holy God, your Son, Jesus Christ has spoken to us the word of reconciliation. We come to you now in the words he taught us, saying:

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.

The Lord, My Shepherd

Text: Psalm 23 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



The Lord my shep-herd rules my life
The Lord re-vives my fail-ing strength,
Though in a val-ley dark as death,
and gives me all I need; He and
He makes my joy com-plete; and
no e-vil makes me fear; Your
leads me by re-fresh-ing streams;
in right paths, for His names sake,
shep-herd's staff pro-tects my way,
in pas-tures green I feed. Your
He guides my fal-te-ring feet.
for you are with me there.
good-ness and your gra-cious love pur-sue me all my
days; Your house, O Lord, shall be my home, your
name my end-less praise.

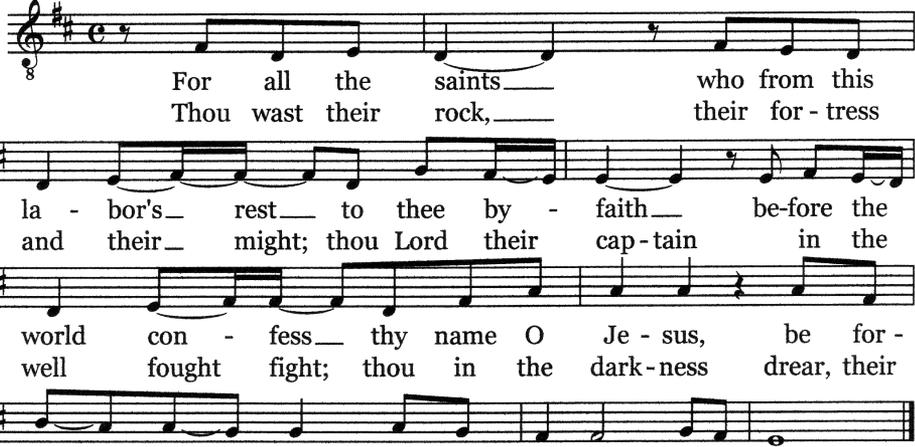
While all my enemies look on, you spread a royal feast;
you fill my cup, anoint my head, and treat me as your guest.

(Chorus)

For All The Saints

Text: William H. How • Music: Christopher Miner • ©1998 Christopher Miner

Tenor



8 For all the saints who from this
2 Thou wast their rock, their for- tress
4 la - bor's rest to thee by - faith be-fore the
8 and their might; thou Lord their cap-tain in the
6 world con - fess thy name O Je - sus, be for -
8 well fought fight; thou in the dark-ness drear, their
e - ver blessed, al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu.
one true light, al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu.

O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alelu...

The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest,
Alleluia, Alelu...

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alelu...
Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING • John 1:14-18

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • "The Incarnation" (Rev. Eric Costa)





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • Philippians 2:6-11

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

I believe that Jesus Christ, being God, made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born a man. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 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].)

Victory In The Lamb

Text & Music: Wesley Randolph Eader • © 2014 Door of Hope

He will clothe the poor with crowns
in the kingdom he calls theirs.
He will raise them to the halls of heaven
and release their earthly cares.

And the hard times, they will come.
And the black clouds, they will break.
But his riches come with the morning sun
and they grow green fields of grace.

(Chorus)

*So let all condemnation cease!
Let guilt have no more claim!
Let the devil lose all dominion!
For the Lamb of God he came!
And the Lamb of God was slain!
And the Lamb of God was raised!*

We will fix our wandering eyes
on the wonders of our Lord.
By his sacred stripes we have been healed,
through his wounds our joys supplied.

(Chorus)

Now the strong ones and the weak
are the same under his blood.
For empty-handed all must come
to receive his endless love.

(Chorus)

Gloria In The Highest

Text: Ambrose (4th Century), Martin Luther (16th Century)

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used By Permission

Tenor

8 Sa - vior of the na - tions come,
Not by hu - man pow'r or seed
Mar - y then was found with child,
Christ laid down his maj - es - ty,
3 show your - self the vir - gin's son. Fill with won - der
did the wom - an's womb con - ceive; on - ly by the
still a vir - gin chaste and mild. God had fa - vored
6 passed through dark Geth - sem - a - ne. Though he left his
8 all the earth, that our God chose such a birth.
Spir - it's breath was the Word of God made flesh.
her with grace to re - ceive the Prince of Peace.
9 Fa - ther's home, Christ now sits on God's own throne.
8 Glo - ri - a! ____ Glo - ri - a! ____ Glo - ri - a! ____
15
8 _ In the high - - - est!

Since the star at Bethlehem brought new light to earth again,
may our faith shine bright each day; faithful God, keep sin away.
Christ in glory, intercede for your creature's suff'ring need.
Let your resurrecting pow'r soon complete the vict'ry hour.

(Chorus)

Praise to you, O Lord, we sing, praise to Christ our newborn King!
With the Father, Spirit, one, let your lasting kingdom come!

(Chorus x2)

BENEDICTION • 2 Peter 1:2

May grace and peace be multiplied to you
in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

~

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 fellowship 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).

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: Costa Next Sunday: Sery

Refreshments Volunteers

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

Today: Aznoe Next Sunday: K. Boden



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