



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

  
THE WORD  


**CALL TO WORSHIP • John 15:9**

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in my love.”

# 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. There.  
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)*

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 55:6-7**

Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD,

that he may have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Our Father in heaven, we confess that we have doubted your gracious love. Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting your freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our own agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 54:4-5**

Fear not, for you will not be ashamed;

be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced;

for you will forget the shame of your youth,

and the reproach of your widowhood

you will remember no more.

For your Maker is your husband,

the LORD of hosts is his name;

and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer,

the God of the whole earth he is called.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • 1 Corinthians 16:1-2**

Concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

## **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 • Ezekiel 34:1-24**

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.*

# The Lord's Prayer

Text: Matthew 6:9-13 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Our fath-er in hea-ven hal-low-ed be \_\_\_ your name,



Your king-dom come, your will be done on earth as it is \_\_\_ in



hea - ven. Give us to - day our dail - y



bread, and for-give all our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who



tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in-to temp-



ta - tion, but de - liv - er us \_\_\_ from the e - vil one. For



yours \_\_\_ in the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo - ry \_\_\_ for-



ev - er - more. A - men. \_\_\_\_\_

# 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 10:1-21**

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup> But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

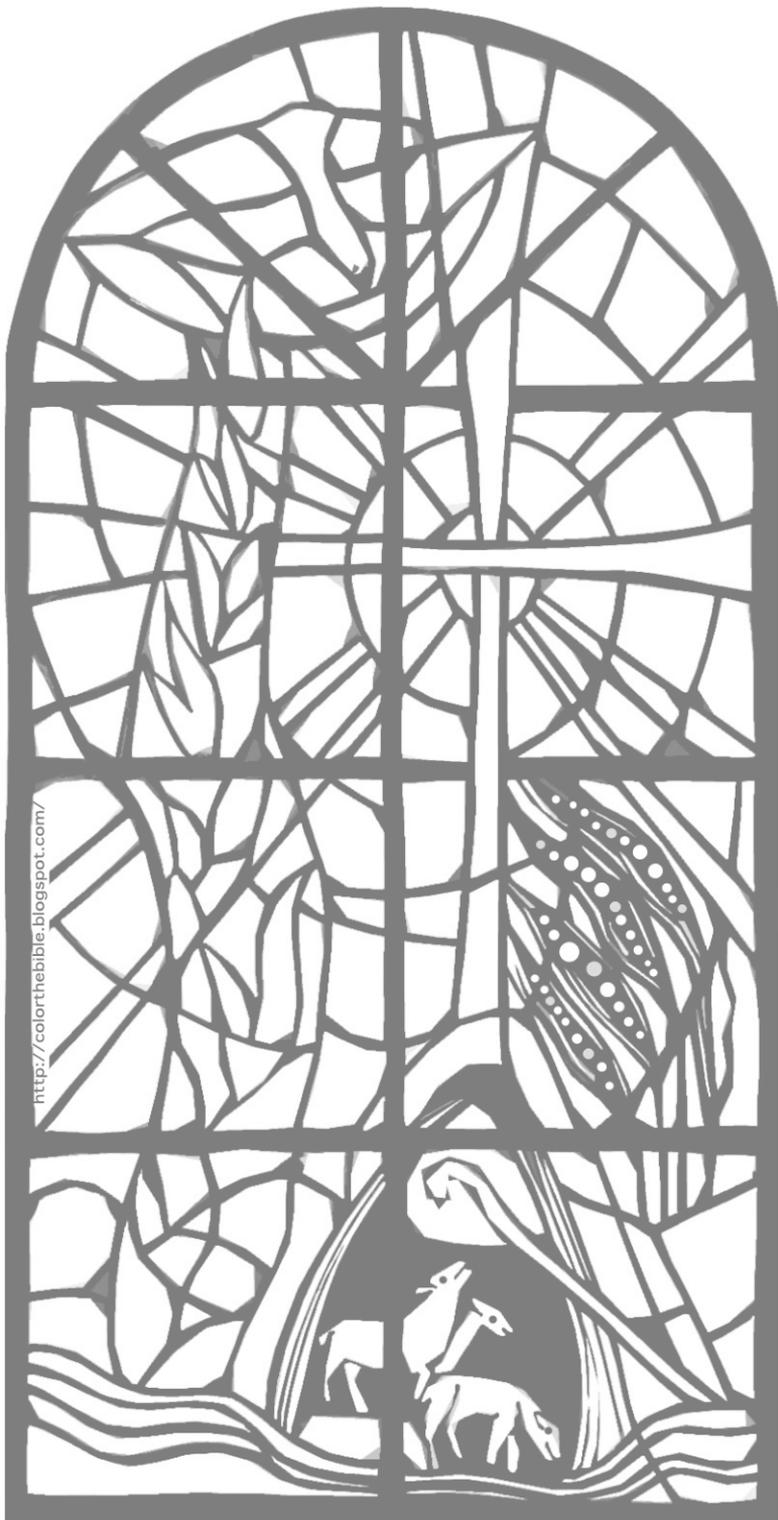
<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. <sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

<sup>19</sup> There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. <sup>20</sup> Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?” <sup>21</sup> Others said, “These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

**SERMON • “The Good Shepherd” (Rev. Eric Costa)**



<http://colorthebible.blogspot.com/>



THE UPPER ROOM



**CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 1**

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

*That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him. 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 for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

# It Is Well With My Soul

Text: Horatio G. Spafford • Music: Phillip P. Bliss • Public Domain

Tenor

When peace, like a riv - er, at -  
Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though  
My sin, O the bliss of this  
tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like sea bil - lows  
tri - als should come, let this blest as - sur - ance con -  
glo - ri - ous thought! My sin, not in part, but the  
roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to  
trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -  
11 whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no  
8 say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is  
tate, and has shed His own blood for my soul.  
15 more; Praise the Lord! It is well with my soul!  
8 well... with my soul; it is well, it is well with my  
21 soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
even so, it is well with my soul.

*(Chorus x2)*

# 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.

## BENEDICTION • Jude 1-2

To those who are called,  
beloved in God the Father  
and kept for Jesus Christ:  
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

~

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

**After Worship** • Please stay a while and join us for coffee and conversation.

**Mercy Sunday** • On the first Sunday of each month we collect *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.

**Newcomers' Lunch** • Sun., Sept. 10 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). This will be a good chance to get to know each other and ask questions about our church, membership, et cetera. RSVP (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

**Sunday School** • We will start up Sunday School for the children (and Sermon Discussion for the adults) again this month. We'll need more volunteers to share the teaching roles than we've had in previous years. Please consider whether you can help our young ones grow in their knowledge of Christ. Contact: Joe Pope (pope.joe@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](http://ascensionpc.org/calendar).

### Nursery Volunteers

(Contact: Rainy Aznoe, rainyrr@aol.com)

Today: Aznoe      Next Sunday: Costa

### Refreshments Volunteers

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

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



**Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro**  
**<http://ascension.church> • [facebook.com/ascensionpc](https://www.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.)

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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.