

“God does not spare those he loves from life’s difficulties.”

Ernst Haenchen

“Jesus’ delays always hurt.”

Frederick Dale Bruner

“When God permits us to be overwhelmed with distresses,  
and to languish long under them,  
let us know that, in this manner, he promotes our salvation.”

John Calvin



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**CALL TO WORSHIP • Philippians 4:4**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

# 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 score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "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 music 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.



## OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 16

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.*

# I Hunger And I Thirst

Text: John S. B. Monsell, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl

Used by Permission

Tenor

I hun-ger and I thirst;  
Thou bruised and bro-ken Bread,  
Thou true life-giv-ing Vine,  
Rough paths my feet have trod,  
Je-sus my man-na be; ye liv-ing wa-ters,  
my life-long needs sup-ply; as liv-ing souls are  
let me Thy sweet-ness prove; re-new my life with  
since first their course be-gan; feed me, thou Bread of  
burst, out of the rock for me. I  
fed, O feed me or I die. I  
Thine, re-fresh my soul with love. I  
God, help me thou Son of Man. I  
hun-ger and I thirst; Je-sus my man-na be!  
Je-sus Christ the bread of  
life, I hun-ger for you Lord!

For still the desert lies my thirsting soul before;  
O living waters rise within me evermore.  
I hunger and I thirst, Jesus my manna be!

*Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, I hunger for you Lord!*  
*Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, I hunger for you Lord!*

# 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 underlined to indicate phrasing. The score is divided into measures by 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.

## **GOSPEL READING • John 11:1-16**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

<sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup> After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup> Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

## **SERMON • "Death and Glory" (Rev. Eric Costa)**





THE UPPER ROOM



**CONFESSION OF FAITH • Colossians 1:15-20**

Who is Jesus Christ?

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. 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.

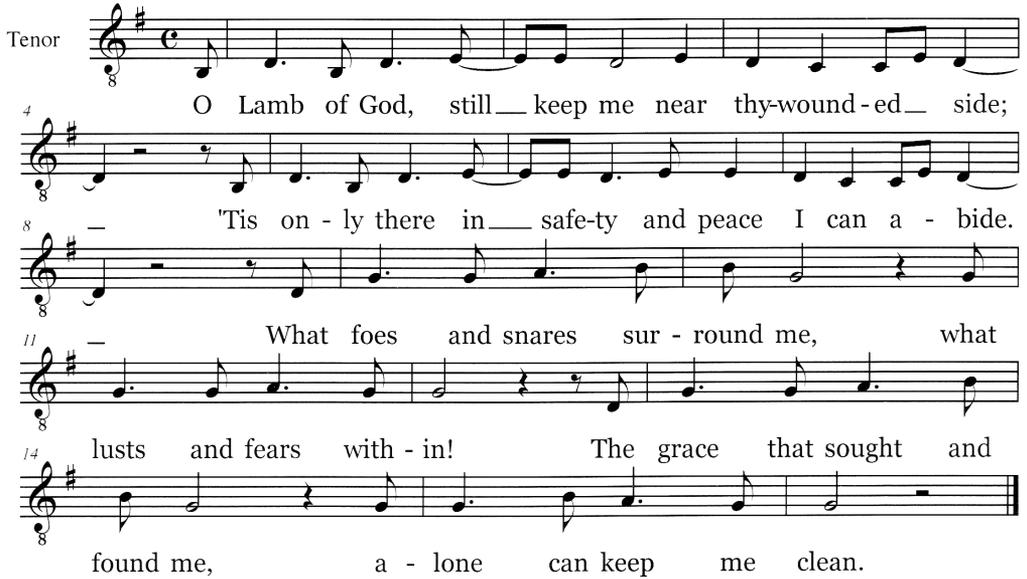
**GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

(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].)

# O Lamb Of God, Still Keep Me

Text: James George Deck • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Used by Permission

Tenor



O Lamb of God, still keep me near thy-wound-ed side;  
'Tis on-ly there in safe-ty and peace I can a-bide.  
What foes and snares sur-round me, what  
lusts and fears with-in! The grace that sought and  
found me, a-lone can keep me clean.

'Tis only in thee hiding, I feel myself secure;  
'tis only in thee abiding, the conflict can endure;  
thine arm the victory gaineth, o'er every hateful foe;  
thy love my heart sustaineth in all its cares and woes.

Soon shall my eyes behold thee with rapture, face to face;  
one half hath not been told me of all thy pow'r and grace:  
thy beauty, Lord, and glory, the wonders of thy love,  
shall be the endless story of all the saints above.

## **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!

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

**Sunday School** • Next Sunday (Sept. 24) we will start Sunday School for the children (and Sermon Discussion for the adults). Contact: Joe Pope (pope.joe@gmail.com).

**Nursery Volunteers Needed** • Some of our current volunteers are transitioning to help with Sunday School, so we could use some more folks in the nursery rotation (which should be once every 6-8 weeks). Please contact Rainy Aznoe to learn more about serving in this way (rainyrr@aol.com).

**Photo Directory** • See Jerilee to get a picture taken for the photo directory (use the contact card below to provide whatever information you'd like included in the directory).

**Choir** • We're putting together a choir to sing a few songs on Sundays during the Advent season and on Christmas Eve. If you're interested, contact John Elliott (john.a.elliott2@gmail.com).

**Ladies' Breakfast** • 9am Sat., Sept. 23 at the Costa home. RSVP to Jerilee (jerilee.costa@gmail.com) and let her know if you'd like to help with food preparations.

**Women's Retreat** • Oct. 13-15, Lincoln City. Contact Cheryl Boden for details (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](http://ascensionpc.org/calendar).

### Nursery Volunteers

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

Today: Sery                      Next Sunday: Jaques

### Refreshments Volunteers

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

Today: Costa                      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.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
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.