

*Everybody sing, everybody dance / Lose yourself in wild romance...
Life is good, wild and sweet / Let the music play on
Feel it in your heart and feel it in your soul / Let the music take control
We're going to party, limin', fiesta, forever / Come on and sing my song
All night long!*

Lionel Richie

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."' Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."

John 7:37-39



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 13, 2015
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 72:18-19

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory!

Amen and Amen!

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

12th Century Latin Hymn • Public Domain

Alto

O come, O come, Em - man - - u - el, and
ran - som cap - tive Is - - - ra - el, that
mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un - til the Son of
God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
man - - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra -
el.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the sixth staff.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry over the grave.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

(Chorus)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

The Lord be with you. ^{Ruth 2:4}

The Lord bless you.

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Matthew 3:1-2

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Holy Father, Son, and Spirit,
we have lived in open rebellion
against your gracious rule.*

*Please, Lord Jesus, may we find
our redemption in your passion,
the absolution of our guilt in your condemnation,
the cancellation of our curse in your cross,
the satisfaction for our sins in your sacrifice,
our purification in your blood,
reconciliation to God in your descent into hell,
the death of our flesh in your tomb,
immortality in your resurrection,
our inheritance in your ascension.*

We believe, Lord. Help our unbelief. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • John 1:29

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Revelation 22:1-5, 17

The Word of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Father Eternal, God Almighty, you have brought forth from the root of Jesse a shoot, Jesus our Savior.

He is your anointed one, the promised Messiah, in him you are well pleased. We come to you in his service, to offer our prayers of intercession for the coming of his kingdom.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be both Lord and Christ.

We pray for the Church of Christ that she might be faithful to her Lord, bearing witness to his reign in every land among every people.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be our Lord and Shepherd.

We pray for those whom you have appointed to be ministers of your gospel. We especially ask for your protection and help for our pastor.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be Lord of all the earth.

We pray that you draw all people to kneel before the Prince of Peace. Please establish justice and peace between nations in your world.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus King of kings and Lord of lords.

We pray for the rulers of our nation that they might be wise, fearing the Lord to whom they must bow in the world to come.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus a counselor and comforter of your people.

We pray for those among us who suffer, for those who are lonely, for those without home or family, for those who are depressed and discouraged, for those who are seeking work, for those who are sick, for those who are grieving.

Praise, honor and glory belong to you, Eternal Father, and to your Son, who taught us to pray 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.

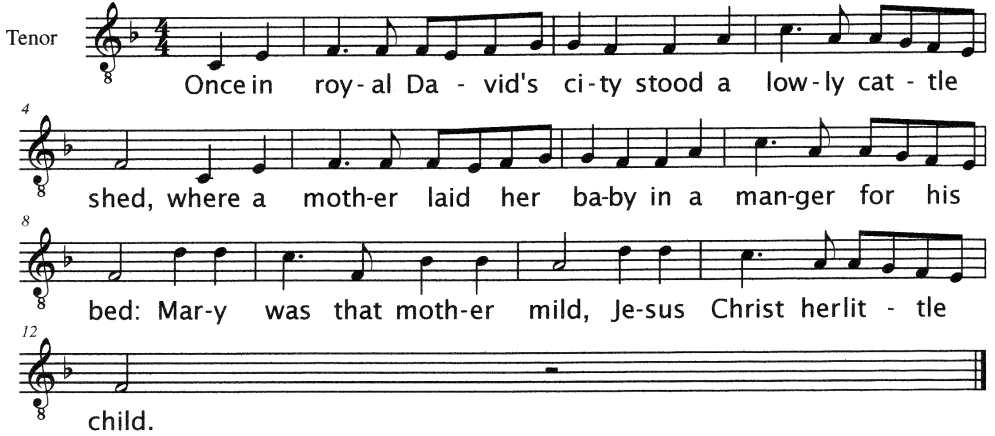
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Once In Royal David's City

Text: Cecil Francis Alexander • Music: Henry J. Gauntlett • Public Domain

Tenor



8

Once in roy-al Da - vid's ci-ty stood a low-ly cat - tle

4

8

shed, where a moth-er laid her ba-by in a man-ger for his

8

8

bed: Mar-y was that moth-er mild, Je-sus Christ her lit - tle

12

8

child.

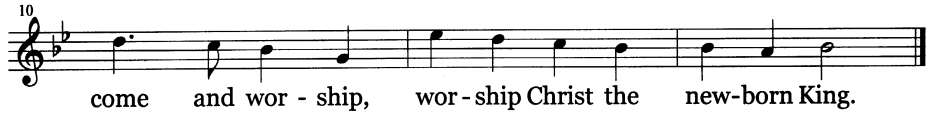
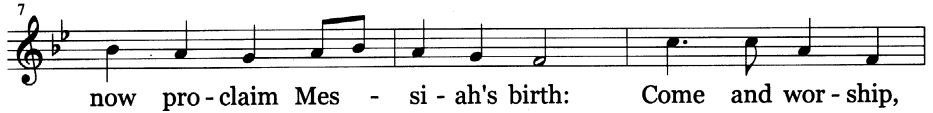
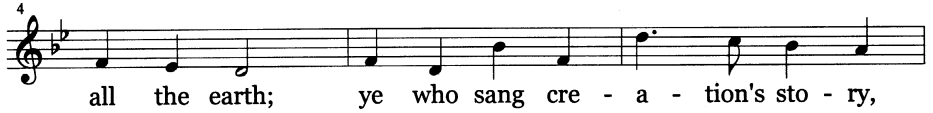
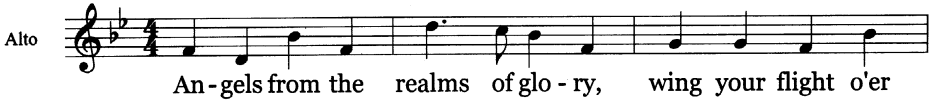
He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall be around.

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Text: James Montgomery • Music: Henry Smart • Public Domain



Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing; yonder shines the infant light.

(Chorus)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; you have seen his natal star.

(Chorus)

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.

(Chorus)

Sinners, wrung with true repentance, doomed for guilt to endless pains,
Justice now revokes the sentence, Mercy calls you; break your chains.

(Chorus)



the Song of Songs

love's fla - shes are fla - shes of fire, the ve - ry flame of the LORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING • The Song of Songs 4:1 – 5:1

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “A World Of Love” (Rev. Eric Costa)



THE UPPER ROOM

VOWS FOR OFFICER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Dave Bull and Tim Sery (Deacons)

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
 2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will, on your own initiative, make known to your Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?
 3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, in conformity with the general principles of biblical polity?
 4. Do you accept the office of deacon in this church, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your life, and to set a worthy example before the Church of which God has made you an officer?
 5. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?
 6. Do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church?
- * Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as deacons, and do you promise to yield to them all that honor and encouragement in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?

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.¹ 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 catholic² 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].)

¹ 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.

² Or, “universal.”

At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Text: Robert Campbell • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our vic - to - rious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
flow - ing from His pierc - ed side;
Praise we Him whose love di - vine
gives His sa - cred blood for wine,
gives His bod - y for the feast,
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed: paschal victim, paschal bread.
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light.
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit ever be.

Of The Father's Love Begotten

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



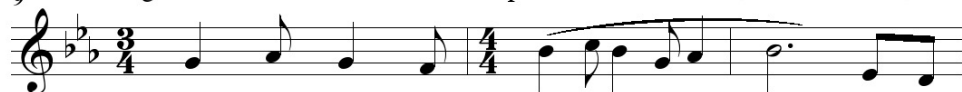
Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the
O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the
This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of
O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel
3 Christ to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O



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
12 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!
ter - nal vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ever - more!

Within A Crib My Savior Lay

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 With-in a crib my Sav-ior lay, a woo-den man-ger
4 filled with hay, come down for love on Christ-mas day:
7 All glo - ry be to Je - sus! Up-on a cross my
11 Sav-ior died, to ran-som sin-ners, cru-ci-fied, His lov-ing arms still
15 o-pen wide: All glo - ry be to Je - sus! And this is
20 love! And this is grace! He came to earth our souls to
26 save! All glo - ry be to Je - sus!

A victor's crown my Savior won,
his work of love and mercy done,
the Father's high ascended Son:
all glory be to Jesus!

And soon to glory we will rise,
because of our Lord's sacrifice,
new life through him, the crucified:
All glory be to Jesus!

And this is love! And this is grace!
He came to earth our souls to save!
And this is love! And this is grace!
That Christ, our God, did come to save!
All glory be to Jesus.
All glory be to Jesus.

BENEDICTION • Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

~

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).

Moms' Group • 10am Wed., Dec. 16 at the home of Nicole Hamilton. This is a great time for moms with young children to enjoy sane conversations together! Invite a friend who might be interested. RSVP to Nicole (especially if you can help with lunch): neh.hamilton@gmail.com.

ICS Christmas Gifts • We'd like to help families through Immigration Counseling Service (ICS) again this Christmas by providing gifts. Sign up with Sara Sery. Please wrap and label your gifts with the family number and age/gender of the person (e.g., "Family #3, 6 year old girl"). Bring your gifts to church next Sunday (Dec. 20). We'll need a volunteer to collect/deliver them to the ICS office in downtown Portland the next day. Contact Sara Sery for details.

Rejoicing In Christ Home Group • Sun., Dec. 20 at the home of Joe and Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany, Tigard). Join us as we share lunch and conversation about Michael Reeves' book.

Christmas Eve Service • 7pm Thu., Dec. 24.

Financial Report YTD through Oct. 31

Giving: \$107,000

Expenses: \$117,000

Account Balance: \$12,000

Musicians • Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 at the Costa home for fellowship, choir practice, and preparation for the coming Sunday. Families are welcome. Contact Kady Boden (kady@ascensionpc.org).

Nursery Volunteers • Contact: Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Today: Aznoe

Next Sunday: Costa

Refreshments Volunteers • Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com).

Today: Edwards

Next Sunday: K. Boden

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



Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro
ascensionpc.org • 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.