

*Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back, / Guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack / From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning / If I lack'd anything.*

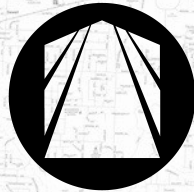
*"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here"; / Love said, "You shall be he."  
"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah, my dear, / I cannot look on thee."  
Love took my hand and smiling did reply, / "Who made the eyes but I?"*

*"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame / Go where it doth deserve."  
"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?" / "My dear, then I will serve."  
"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat." / So I did sit and eat.*

George Herbert (17th c.), "Love (III)"

*"The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved;  
loved for ourselves—say rather, loved in spite of ourselves."*

Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship • January 17, 2016



THE WORD



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 96:7-9**

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
tremble before him, all the earth!

# Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Music: William M. Runyan • Lyric: Thomas O. Chisolm • ©1923/1951 Hope Publishing Co.

Tenor

8

6

11

16

21

26

31

Great is thy faith-fulness, O God my Father; there is no  
shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev-er wilt  
be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!  
Morn-ing by morn-ing new mercies I see: all I have  
need-ed thy hand hath pro - vid-ed, Great is thy faith-ful-ness,  
Lord, un - - - to me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten-thousand beside!  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

The Lord be with you. <sup>Ruth 2:4</sup>

*The Lord bless you.*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Acts 2:38**

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Father of mercies, we confess that we have sinned against you. By your Holy Spirit, come and work repentance into our hearts. Help us to see you as you are: with outstretched arms, a loving heart, and power to save. Help us to see Jesus, the friend of sinners, and to follow him more faithfully. As we have received him, so strengthen us to walk in him, depend on him, commune with him, and be conformed to him. Give us an experience of your grace that makes us bold for others, that we might joyfully tell our friends and neighbors of your saving mercy. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Acts 4:12**

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Matthew 6:2-4**

“When you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

## **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 • Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18, 33-34

<sup>1</sup> The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy..."

<sup>17</sup> "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD..."

<sup>33</sup> "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. <sup>34</sup> You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

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...

Father, we pray for your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,

*That we all may be one.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

Grant that every member of the church may joyfully and humbly serve you,

*That your Name would be honored by all people.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all who lead and guide your church,

*That they may be faithful and diligent servants of you.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world,

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake,

*That we may know the joy of living for you.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from grief or trouble,

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Lord, in your mercy... *Hear our prayer.*

Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to pray:

*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.*

# Before The Throne Of God Above

Text: Charitie Lees Bancroft • Music: Vikki Cook • ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part".

Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a  
strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is  
love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His  
hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that  
while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de -  
part No tongue can bid me thence de - part

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look to see him there, who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,  
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
the great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood,  
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God.

# God Of My Life

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800) • Music: Benj Pocta, Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy  
©2007 Red Mountain Music



1. God of my life to Thee I \_\_\_\_\_ call;  
2. Friend of the friend - less and the \_\_\_\_\_ faint,  
3. That were a grief I could not \_\_\_\_\_ bear,



Af - flict - ed at Thy \_\_\_\_\_ feet I \_\_\_\_\_ fall;  
Where should I lodge my \_\_\_\_\_ deep com - - paint?  
Didst Thou not hear and \_\_\_\_\_ an - swer \_\_\_\_\_ prayer;



When the great wa - ter floods pre - - vail,  
Where but with Thee whose o - pen \_\_\_\_\_ door,  
But a prayer - hear - ing, an - swer - ing \_\_\_\_\_ God,



Leave not my tremb - ling heart to \_\_\_\_\_ fail.  
In - vites the help - less and the \_\_\_\_\_ poor?  
Sup - ports me un - der \_\_\_\_\_ ev - 'ry \_\_\_\_\_ load.



Poor though I am, des - pised, for - got, \_\_\_\_\_ Yet God, my God, for -



gets me not; \_\_\_\_\_ And he is safe, and must suc -



ceed, For whom, the Lord is sure to \_\_\_\_\_ plead. \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 John 4:13-21

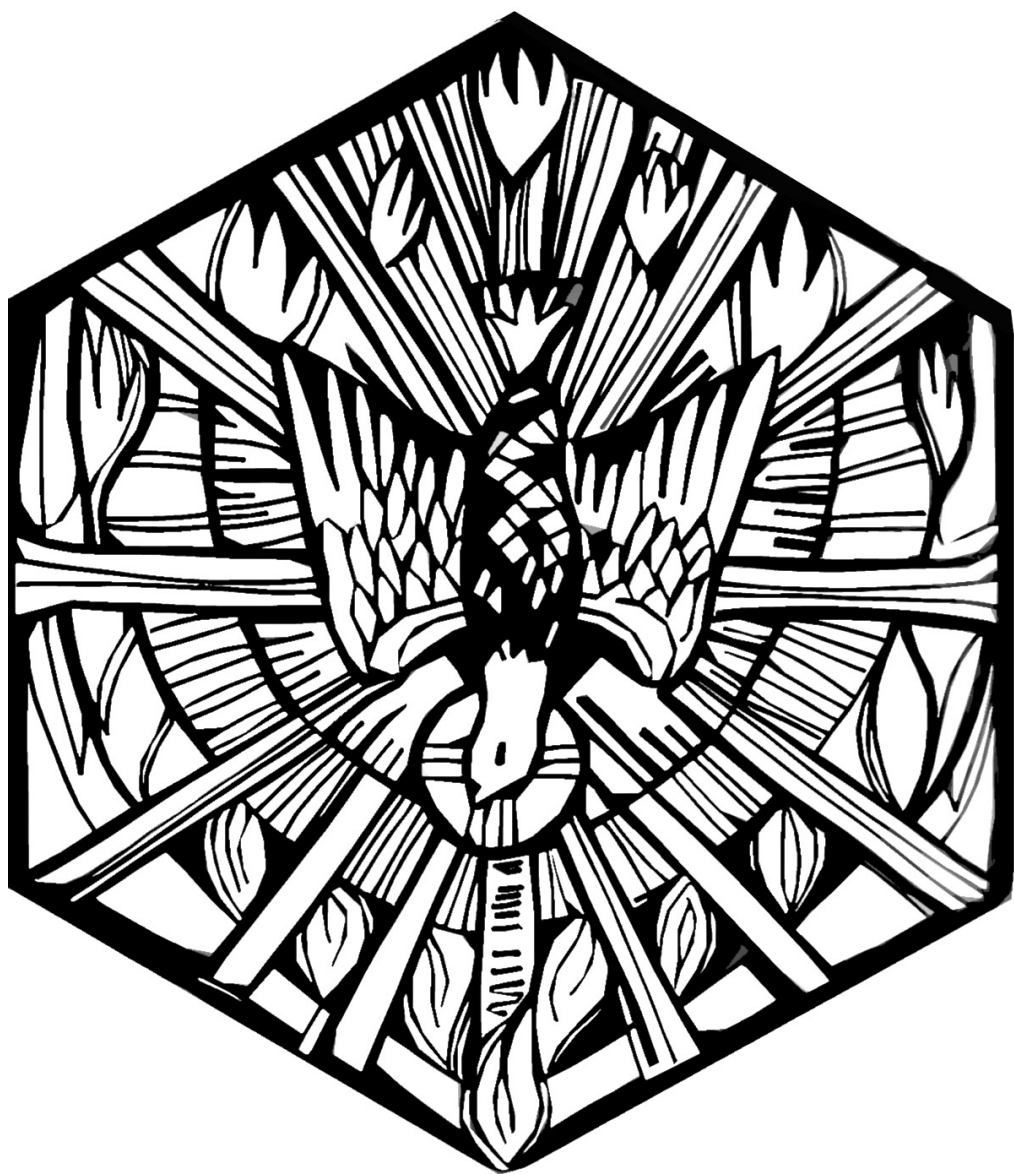
<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

## SERMON • "Ascension's Basic Conviction" (Rev. Eric Costa)









THE UPPER ROOM



**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.<sup>1</sup> 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 catholic<sup>2</sup> 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].)

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Or, “universal.”

# Abide With Me

Text: Henry Lyte • Music: Justin Smith • ©2007 Justin Smith Music

Tenor

The musical score is written for a Tenor voice part. It consists of five staves of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words split across lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

8 A - bide with me; — fastfallthe e - ven -  
3 Thou on my head,in — ear - ly youth didst  
6 tide; The dark - ness deepens; Lordwith me a -  
smile; And, though re - bel - lious, - and per - verse mean -  
9 bide. When oth - er help - ers, fail and com - forts  
while, Thou hast not left me, oft as I left  
flee, help of the help - less, a - bide with me.  
Thee, on to the close Lord, a - bide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness.  
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life and death, Lord, abide with me.

# Glorify Your Name

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Fa - ther we love you we wor - ship and a - dore you,  
5 glo - ri - fy your name in all the earth, glo -  
9 ri - fy your name, glo - ri - fy  
14 your name, glo - ri - fy your name  
19 in all the earth.

Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you,  
glorify your name in all the earth.  
Glorify your name, glorify your name,  
glorify your name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you,  
glorify your name in all the earth.  
Glorify your name, glorify your name,  
glorify your name in all the earth.

## BENEDICTION • 1 Thessalonians 3:12

May the Lord make you increase and abound  
in love for one another and for all.

~

**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 Tue., Jan. 19 at the home of Jerilee Costa. Coffee, treats, and lunch will be provided. Let Jerilee know if you'd like to bring something (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

**Women's Breakfast** • 9am Sat., Jan. 23 at La Provence at Progress Ridge.

**Prayer Home Group** • Next Sunday (Jan. 24) at the home of Eric & Jerilee Costa (1890 SE Maple Street). Join us for lunch and discussion of part of Karl Barth's book, *Prayer* ("The Invocation of the Lord's Prayer"). All are welcome! RSVP (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

**Musicians** • Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 at the Costa home for fellowship 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: Hamilton      Next Sunday: Pope

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

Today: Wismer      Next Sunday: Whipple

**Regular Gatherings** • For information about our meetings like home groups and bible studies for men and women, visit [ascensionpc.org/calendar](http://ascensionpc.org/calendar).



**Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro**  
**[ascensionpc.org](http://ascensionpc.org) • [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.