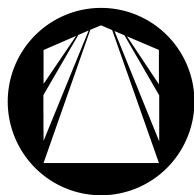


"Depth and strength underlie the simplicity of this psalm. Its peace is not escape; its contentment is not complacency; there is readiness to face deep darkness and imminent attack, and the climax reveals a love which homes towards no material goal but to the Lord himself."

Derek Kidner

"To be comforted by God's glory is genuine Christian contentment... Where this is perceived and heard, the only possible answer is: "I shall lack nothing." Any lack can consist only in the fact that our eyes are closed to the glory of God and that therefore we resist his rule over us as Shepherd."

Karl Barth



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship • February 28, 2016



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 105:1-3

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!

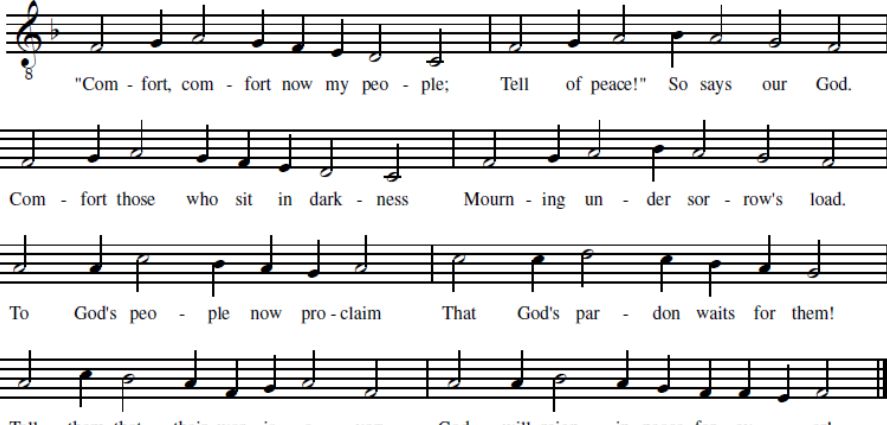
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Text: Johann Olearius (1611-1684)

Music: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David* (Geneva, 1551) • Public Domain

Tenor



8 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; Tell of peace!" So says our God.

3 Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.

5 To God's peo - ple now pro - claim That God's par - don waits for them!

7 Tell them that their war is o - ver, God will reign in peace for - ev - er!

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!

Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!

For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

The Lord bless you.

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 5

Hear our words and our groanings, O Lord. Give attention to our cry for mercy. You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; you abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful. But, O Lord, we are evildoers. We are boastful, deceitful and bloodthirsty. By your mercy alone, by the abundance of your steadfast love may we enter your house. Because of your Son, O Lord, let us find refuge in you. Take away our sins and let us sing for joy. Cover us with your favor as with a shield. For the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Acts 20:32, 35

"Now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified... By working hard we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

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.

GOSPEL READING • Mark 6:30-44

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. ³⁵ And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶ Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." ³⁷ But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" ³⁸ And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." ³⁹ Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹ And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³ And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴ And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray...

Our Father in the heavens, you do all that you please. You are sovereign over everything that you have made. Nothing can thwart your holy will. You have declared the end from the beginning, and you will accomplish all your purpose.

We trust that you love us, and that you order our lives for our good and your glory. Help us where our faith is weak. Grant us peace that passes understanding in the midst of the trials of this life. We rejoice and rest in your perfect, fatherly care.

Please, Father, make the earth more like heaven.

Be present with us through your Holy Spirit. Comfort and heal those who are sick in mind, heart, and body. Revive dead souls to life, and lift up those who are poor in spirit. Provide for those who are seeking work. Bring justice, peace, and prosperity to our community, and to the world. Send your Son again soon to make heaven and earth one.

Until that Day, Father, may your will be done in us and through us.

Not our will but yours be done. May the joy of your salvation be our strength as we seek to live for you. We want to be holy as you are holy; teach us the law of love, and help us to obey you. Change our will to align with your own; help us to love what you love, and to hate what you hate. Make our light shine before others, so that they may see our good works and give glory to you, our Father who is in heaven. In Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'How Deep The Father's Love For Us'. It consists of ten staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score is numbered 1 through 15 at the beginning of each staff.

How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how
Be - hold the man up - on the cross, my
I will not boast in an - y thing, no
vast be - yond all mea - sure, that
sin up - on His should - ers; a -
gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but
He should give His on - ly Son to
shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
I will boast in Je - sus Christ, His
make a wretch His trea - sure. How
out a - mong the scof - fers. It
death and res - ur - rect - ion. Why
great the pain of sear - ing loss; the Fa - ther turns His
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac -
should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an
face a - way as wounds which mar the
com - plished. His dy - ing breath has
an - swer, but this I know with
cho - sen one bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
brought me life, I know that it is fin - ished.
all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

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-ting 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.

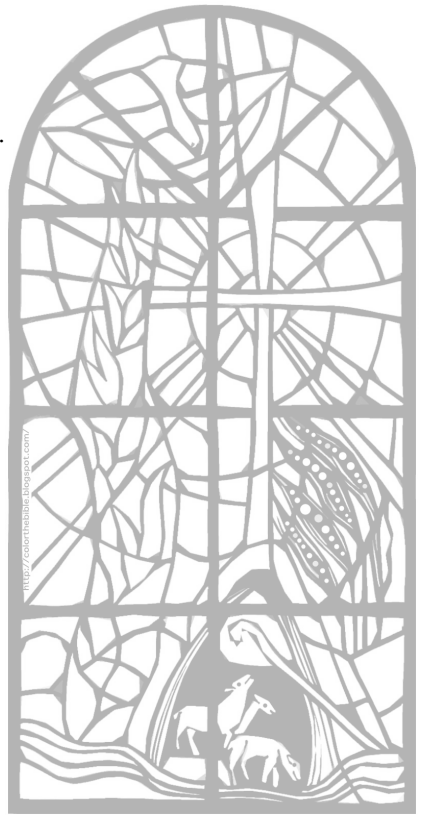
(Chorus)

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 23

A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!



SERMON • “The Lord Is My Shepherd” (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.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.”

The Lamb Has Overcome

Music and Lyrics: Luke Morton • ©2011 Cardiphonia Music

The Lamb has ov - er - come, the
Lamb has ov - er - come; the bat - tle's done and the
vic-to-ry is won, for the Lamb has ov - er - come! No
grave could hold Him down, no grave could hold Him
down; up from the ground, "He is
ri-sen!" was the sound, no grave could hold Him down.
At God's right hand is He, at
God's right hand is He; our per - fect plea as He
lives to in-ter-cede, at God's right hand is He! Wor-thy
is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry be un - to His
name! Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry
be un - to His name!

The table now is spread, the table now is spread;
the wine and bread, broken body and blood shed, the table now is spread.

The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near;
he shall appear and wipe away each tear, the day is drawing near!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!

(Repeat Chorus)

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Text: Samuel Stennett • Music: Christopher Miner • ©1997 Christopher Miner

Tenor

8 On Jor-dan's stor-my banks I stand, and cast a wish-ful
4 eye; To Can-aan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-se-sions
8 lie. O'er all those wide ex-ten-ded plains, shines
11 chil-ling winds or poi-son breath, can
8 one et-er-nal day; There God the Son_ for-
14 reach that health-ful shore; Where sick-ness, sor-row,
8 ev-er reigns, and scat-ters night a-way. I am bound, I am
18 pain and death, are felt and feared no more.
8 bound, I am bound for the prom-ised land!_ I am bound, I am
22 bound, I am bound for the prom-ised land!_ No

When I shall reach that happy place, I'll be forever blessed;
for I shall see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest.

(Chorus)

Filled with delight my raptured soul would here no longer stay;
though Jordan's waves around me roll, fearless I'd launch away.

(Chorus)

BENEDICTION • Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

~

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).

Prayer Home Group • Today at the home of Eric & Jerilee Costa (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro).

Monthly Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., Mar. 5 at the Costa home. Each time we meet Eric provides a teaching to kickstart our table conversations, looking briefly at a phrase of the Apostles' Creed. This time: "Jesus Christ." RSVP (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com), and let Eric know if you can help by bringing part of the breakfast.

Mercy Sunday • Mar. 6... On the first Sunday of each month we collect a special offering—*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. To sign up to bring food supplies, contact Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Men's Retreat • Fri. - Sun., Apr. 29 - May 1. RSVP to Sam Boden (samuelcboden@gmail.com).

Church Campout • Fri. - Sun., Aug. 19-21, at the Deschutes River State Rec. Area. Mark your calendars! We'll join our sister congregation, Hope (Portland), for the weekend. Stay tuned for more details...

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: Sery Next Sunday: Aznoe

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

Today: Whipple Next Sunday: Costa

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](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)

- 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.

Email / Phone