"Jesus' aim is not to gain a following but to reveal his Father by being faithful and obedient to him." Rodney Whitacre

"There never was a more inconsistent Being on this earth than our Lord, but he was never inconsistent to his Father.

The one consistency of the saint is not to a principle, but to the Divine life."

Oswald Chambers

ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Worship on the Lord's Day April 23, 2017



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 136:1-3

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson (1758) • Music: Asahel Nettleton (1825) • Public Domain



PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word, and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 4:15

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

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 • Leviticus 23:33-44

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:

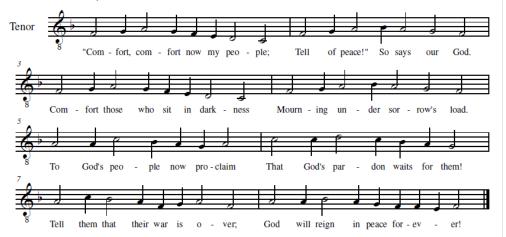
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Text: Johann Olearius (1611-1684)

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



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.

O Lord, By Grace Delivered

Text: Psalm 30 (1912 Psalter) • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



What profit if I perish, if life you do not spare? Shall dust repeat your praises, shall it your truth declare? O Lord, on me have mercy, and my petition hear; that you may be my helper, in mercy, Lord, appear.

(Chorus)

My grief is turned to gladness, to you my thanks I raise, who has removed my sorrow and girded me with praise; and now, no longer silent, my heart your praise will sing; O Lord, my God forever, my thanks to you I bring.

(Chorus)

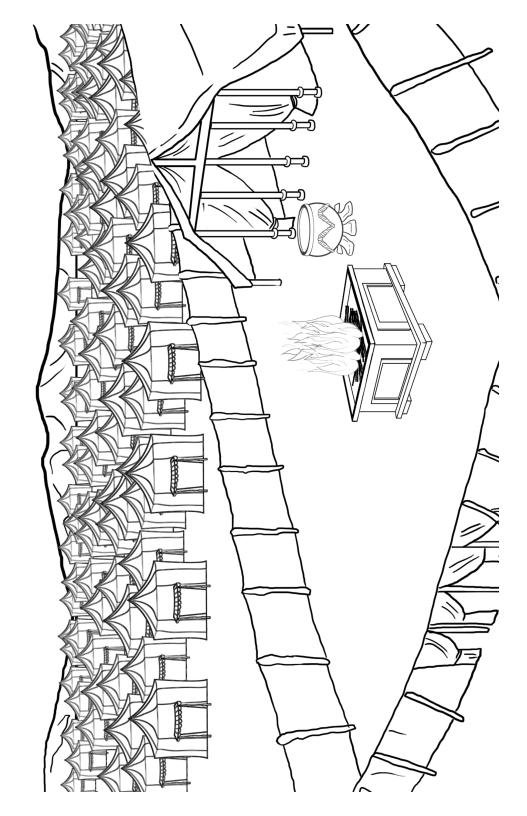
GOSPEL READING • John 7:1-13

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. ² Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. ³ So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. ⁴ For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵ For not even his brothers believed in him. ⁶ Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil. ⁸ You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come." ⁹ After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

¹⁰ But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. ¹¹ The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, "Where is he?" ¹² And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, "He is a good man," others said, "No, he is leading the people astray." ¹³ Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him.

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

SERMON • "The Faithful Contrarian" (Rev. Eric Costa)





VOWS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Lydia Aznoe; Amber Lee

- 1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?
- 2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?
- 3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
- 4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
- 5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

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].)

Deep Were His Wounds, And Red

Text: William Johnson • Music: Vito Aiuto • © New Jerusalem Music/ASCAP

Deep were his wounds, and red, on cruel Calvary, as on the cross he bled in bitter agony.

But they whom sin has wounded sore find healing in the wounds he bore.

But they whom sin has wounded sore find healing in the wounds he bore.

He suffered shame and scorn and wretched, dire disgrace; forsaken and forlorn, he hung there in our place.

But all who would from sin be free look to his cross for victory.

But all who would from sin be free look to his cross for victory.

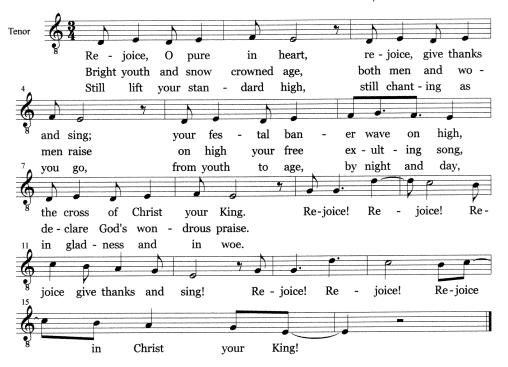
His life, his all he gave when he was crucified; our burdened souls to save, what fearful death he died!

But each of us, though dead in sin, through Christ eternal life may win.

But each of us, though dead in sin, through Christ eternal life may win.

Rejoice In Christ Your King

Text: Edward H. Plumtree • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest, the pilgrims reach their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice in Christ your King!

Praise God, who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore: the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice in Christ your King!

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way.

The Lord be with you all.

^

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

Church Lunch • Today after Worship, at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). All are welcome! Please bring something to share.

Support the Janssens • Brian, Faith, and their children are planning to return to Taiwan in June. They still need some financial support. They have arranged a "rewards program" through Fred Meyer. If you use one of the Janssens' gift cards there, whether for shopping or gas, Fred Meyer will send them 5% of whatever you load/spend on that card (through their mission agency, OMF). There is no fee to use the reloadable card. For more information and/or to obtain a card, contact Eric (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

"I'm Hooked" • Robert Spracklen is requesting volunteer drivers to help transport gear for their Family Fishing Weekend. Contact him if you can help (503-330-8056).

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

Nursery Volunteers

Today: Costa Next Sunday: Sery

Refreshments Volunteers

(Contact: Nicole Hamilton, neh.hamilton@gmail.com)
Today: C. Boden Next Sunday: Hamilton



Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro ascensionpc.org • facebook.com/ascensionpc • twitter.com/ascensionpc Unless otherwise indicated. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible. English Standard Version®

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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.
Email / Phone	[] Please use this info for the photo directory.