"Let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD..."

Jeremiah 9:24

"Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD."

Hosea 6:3

"The means of life is fellowship with God; and fellowship with God is to know God, and to enjoy his goodness." Irenaeus

"What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, delight, and contentment than anything else? Knowledge of God."

J. I. Packer

ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • APRIL 22, 2018



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 97:12

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

And Can It Be?



shouldst

die

for

me?

God.

thou,

my

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Genesis 6:5

The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father, we are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hands. Forgive us for how we have corrupted your good creation. Gracious God, you alone are righteous and holy, and in your presence no one can stand. Your mercy is our only hope and we ask for your forgiveness. We pray for your cleansing touch to wash away our corruption, clothe us in righteousness, and for your hands to rework our lives anew. We pray these things in Jesus Christ's holy name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Genesis 15:6

Abraham believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 6:19-21

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

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 • Hosea 2:14-23

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...

(Te Deum Laudamus, 5th Century)

You are God. We praise you!

You are the Lord. We acclaim you!

You are the eternal Father. *All creation worships you!*

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might, Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory!

The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you.

Father, of majesty unbounded, Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide. You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you did not shun the Virgin's womb.

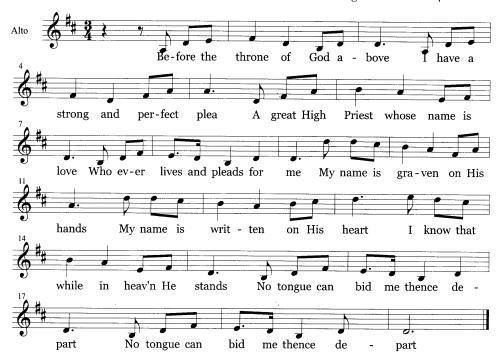
You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory. We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. *Amen*.

Before The Throne Of God Above

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



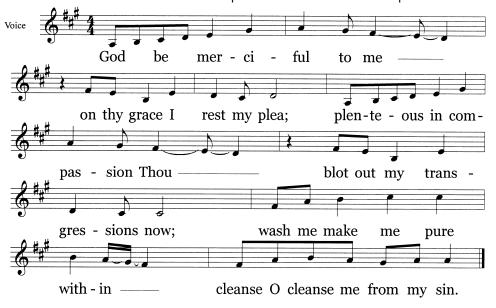
When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look to see him there, who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free, for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me, to look on him and pardon me.

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 Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51)

Text: Richard Redhead • Music: Christopher Miner • © 1998 Christopher Miner



My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress; I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face; I confess thy judgment just; speechless, I thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; thou desirest truth within. Thou alone my Savior art, teach thy wisdom to my heart; make me pure, thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just, let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice; from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true; cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me; thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

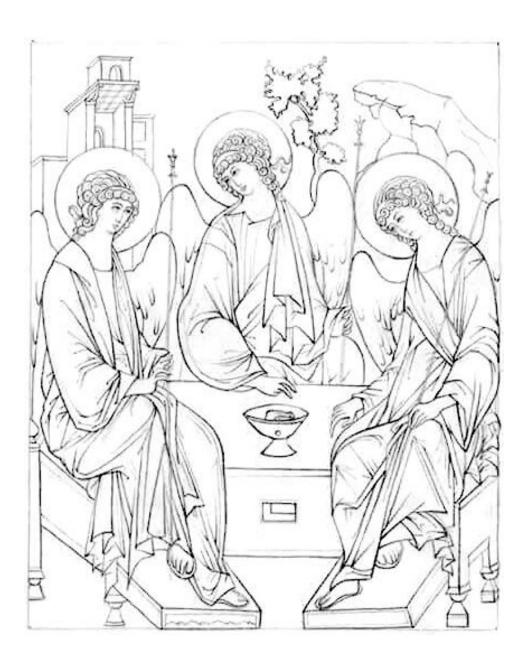
Sinners then shall learn from me, and return O God to thee; Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love; touch my silent lips O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

¹ When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come;

glorify your Son — so that the Son may glorify you, ² just as you gave him authority over all flesh — so that — TO ALL WHOM YOU HAVE GIVEN HIM, he may give to them eternal life. ³ And this is the eternal life: THAT THEY KNOW the only true God, the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me with yourself with the glory that I had with you before the world existed."

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

SERMON • "Eternal Life" (Rev. Eric Costa)





CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Nicene Creed

What do you believe?

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And we believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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].)

^{*} Or, "universal."

A Hymn To God The Father

A Poem by John Donne • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won others to sin, and made my sin their door? Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun a year or two, but wallow'd in a score?

When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more, I have more. (2x)

I have a sin of fear that when I've spun my last thread, I shall perish on the shore; but swear by thyself, that at my death thy sun shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.

And, having done that, thou hast done. I fear no more. I fear no more. (2x)

Love Me To The End

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: Jeff Koonce • ©2006 Red Mountain Music



Before thy face I've told my case; Lord help and mercy send; pity my soul and make me whole, and love me to the end.

BENEDICTION • 2 Peter 1:2

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

~

Remember: every gathering is an opportunity to invite friends, to introduce others to the Christ-centered community and life of the church! For information about our regular meetings like home groups, bible studies for men and women, and more, please visit **ascensionpc.org/calendar**.

After Worship • Please stay a while and join us for coffee and conversation. Around 11:45am we start Sunday School—kids will meet in the sanctuary before going to their classes, and adults will meet in the fellowship hall for Sermon Discussion (young children are welcome to accompany their parents).

Officer Nominations Update • To those of you who participated in the nominations process: thank you! We are about to proceed with the training of Brian Aznoe and Bill Duncan for the office of Deacon, and Tim Sery for the office of Elder. Training and examination will probably conclude near the end of the year, so it might be a while before another official update, but feel free to ask questions about the process if you have any!

Men's Retreat • Fri. - Sun., Apr. 27-29 in Oceanside... The cost is \$80 for both nights, or \$40 for one night (meals included). Make checks payable to Ascension Presbyterian Church with "retreat" in the memo line, and give them to Tim Sery.

Refreshments Volunteers • Bringing refreshments to share at church is a great way to practice hospitality. Ideally, each Sunday we have two volunteers: one bringing snacks for the children, the other bringing something for the adults. Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com)

Today: ____/ ___ Next week: Jagues / ____

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Join the nursery rotation! Contact: Rainy Aznoe (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Aznoe

Email / Phone

Next week: Sery

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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.