

"In the incarnation God met man in man's place,  
but in the ascension we have the meeting of man and God in God's place."

Thomas F. Torrance

"We belong to Jesus Christ who is in heaven. Our true home is there, not here."

Gerrit Dawson

"Jesus is still the Friend of sinners whose very family think that he is mad."

Karl Barth

# ASCENSION

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## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MAY 13, 2018  
ASCENSION SUNDAY



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 2:3**

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.

# Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Robert Williams • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Hail the day that sees Him rise! Al - le - lu - ia!  
5 There for Him high tri - umph waits;  
8 To His throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!  
9 Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates,  
8 Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!  
13 He hath con - quered death and sin,  
8 En - ters now the high - est - heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Take the King of glo - ry in!

See, he lifts his hands above! Alleluia!  
See, he shows the prints of love! Alleluia!  
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!  
blessings on his church below! Alleluia!

Lord, beyond our mortal sight, Alleluia!  
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Alleluia!  
there thy face unclouded see, Alleluia!  
find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee! Alleluia!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 34:18**

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves the crushed in spirit.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Fountain of Living Waters, you give to all mankind life and breath and everything. But we have refused to honor you or give you thanks. We stubbornly pretend that we don't need you, that we can help ourselves. We actively resist your presence and will in our lives. We thoughtlessly ignore you, which may be the worst slight of all. Yet you remain a God of light and life and love, and, in your grace, you have invaded this world to save us from ourselves. Your presence and will, as seen in Jesus, is better than our autonomy. We are sorry for our foolish rebellion. Please forgive us, and fix our eyes on Christ, who came to seek and save the lost, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Psalm 34:22**

The LORD redeems the life of his servants;  
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Luke 6:38**

*"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to 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 • Genesis 5:1–24**

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...

Our Father in Heaven, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. You did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all; how will you not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

*We thank you for your daily provision for our physical needs. We thank you for your care for our souls. We thank you for your mercy given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Lord Jesus, You rule over all things for the sake of your Church. You are at the right hand of God interceding for us constantly. Nothing can separate us from your love.

*Increase the peace and purity and unity of this congregation. Strengthen the church of Christ in our city. Protect and stand with our brothers and sisters everywhere who are being persecuted for their faith.*

Our Savior, you invite the weary and burdened to come to you and find rest. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. You are gentle and humble in heart.

*Heal those who are sick. Give your grace and peace to those facing imminent death and to those who care for them. Comfort those who are grieving. Sit closely with those who are lonely. Provide for those who are seeking work. Free those who are struggling with enslaving sins.*

Our great God, we hear your promise that the knowledge of your glory will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea. We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

*Increase the spread of the Gospel in and through our city, to the world. We ask you to extend your mercy to our friends and loved ones.*

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

*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 five 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.

# O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Text: George Matheson • Music: Christopher Miner • ©1997 Christopher Miner



O Love that will not let me go, I  
O Light that follow'st all my way, I  
O Joy that seek'st me through pain, I  
O Cross that lift'st up my head, I



rest my weary soul in thee; I  
yield my flick'ring torch to thee; My  
can not close my heart to thee; I  
dare not ask to fly from thee; I



give thee back the life I owe, That  
heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray, That  
trace the rain-bow through the rain, And  
lay in dust life's glo-ry dead, And



in thine ocean depths its flow May  
in thy sun-shine's blaze its day May  
feel the promise is not vain, That  
from the ground there blossoms red Life



ri-cher, full-er be.  
bright-er, fair-er be.  
morn shall tear-less be.  
that shall end-less be.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • Hebrews 4:14 – 5:10

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

<sup>5:1</sup> For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. <sup>3</sup> Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. <sup>4</sup> And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup> So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup> as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
after the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup> In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup> Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup> And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, <sup>10</sup> being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

**SERMON • “Our Great High Priest” (Rev. Eric Costa)**



Ascension





THE UPPER ROOM



### **VOWS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Jubilee Costa; Tim and Shirley Sauerwein; James and Rosemary Trott**

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].)

# Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

Text: Martin Luther • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for  
It was a strange and dread - ful strife when  
Here the true pas - chal Lamb we see, whom  
So let us keep the fes - ti - val to  
Then let us feast this ho - ly day on

3  
our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right  
life and death con - tend - ed. The vic - tor - y re -  
God so free - ly gave us. He died on the ac -  
which the Lord in - vites us. Christ is Him - self the  
6  
Christ, the bread of hea - ven. The Word of grace has

hand He stands and brings us life from heav - en.  
mained with life; the reign of death was end - ed.  
curs - ed tree, so strong His love to save us.  
joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.  
9  
purged a - way the old and e - vil leav - en.

There - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to God right  
Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says His death has swal - lowed  
See His blood now marks our door; faith points to it death  
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine  
12  
Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our meat and

thank - ful - ly loud songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
up our death; its sting is lost for - ev - er.  
pass - es o'er, and Sa - tan can - not harm us.  
to our hearts; the night of sin is end - ed.  
17  
drink in - deed; Faith lives u - pon no oth - er!

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
23  
lu - ia!

# Rejoice In Christ Your King

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

Tenor

Re - joice, O pure in heart, re - joice, give thanks  
Bright youth and snow crowned age, both men and wo -  
Still lift your stan - dard high, still chant - ing as  
and sing; your fes - tal ban - er wave on high,  
men raise on high your free ex - ult - ing song,  
you go, from youth to age, by night and day,  
the cross of Christ your King. Re-joyce! Re - joice! Re -  
de - clare God's won - drous praise.  
in glad - ness and in woe.  
joyce give thanks and sing! Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice  
in Christ your King!

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 • Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

~

*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](http://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).

**Help the Elliotts Move** • 9am Sat., May 19, at 678 NE Valarie Ct., Hillsboro.

**Parenting Home Group** • Next Sunday (May 20) at the home of Joe and Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany Street, Tigard). Join us for lunch and conversation about Paul Tripp's book, *Parenting* (chapter 11: "False Gods"). RSVP to Joe ([pope.joe@gmail.com](mailto:pope.joe@gmail.com)).

**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](mailto:neh.hamilton@gmail.com))

Today: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_      Next week: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**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](mailto:rainyrr@aol.com)).

Today: Bonifield      Next week: Rickis



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