

"The call of Abraham is a response to the historical necessity of the confusion at Babel... How can a particular God, a personal God, a God with a name, a character, a God who means to act redemptively in history, now achieve a worldwide result? How can he be known by a human population that is now divided, diverse, dispersed by his own action? The call of Abraham is God's missional answer to this problem... God's election of Abraham and inclusion of him within his redemptive purpose is the divine solution to this dilemma. Abraham is elected into the missionary service of Yahweh."

Michael Williams, *Far As The Curse Is Found*



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • AUGUST 12, 2018

CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 149:1-4

Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

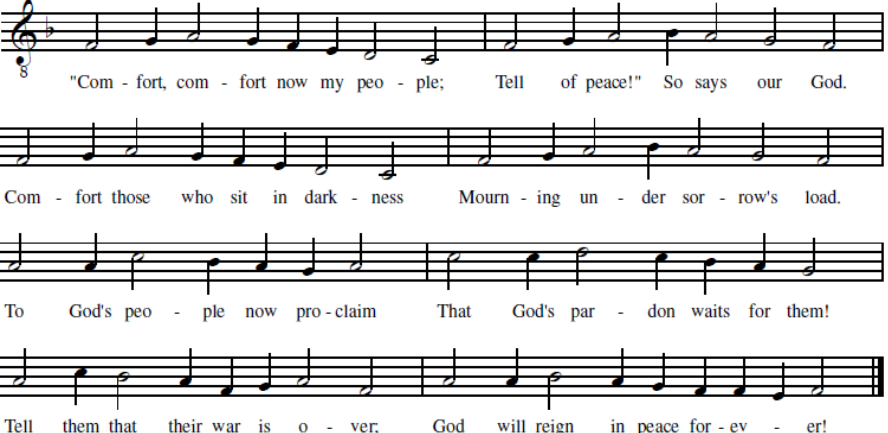
For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Text: Johann Olearius (1611-1684)

Music: Louis Bourgeois, *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

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD,

that he may have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father, Son, and Spirit—our Triune God—you are the only true and living God. We know that you alone are good, yet we still turn to false gods for strength, for pleasure, for comfort, for life. But this is death. We confess that we have sinned, both in the evil we have done, and in the good we have done in order to avoid you. We do not know all the ways our hearts are far from you; we have deceived ourselves. We cannot even confess every sin, or know all our false gods, to turn away from them to you. We are utterly at your mercy. O Lord Jesus, be gracious to us. O Father, assure us of your love that makes all things new. O Holy Spirit, dwell in us and have your way with us. We pray in Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 54:4-5

Fear not, for you will not be ashamed;

be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced;

for you will forget the shame of your youth,

and the reproach of your widowhood

you will remember no more.

For your Maker is your husband,

the LORD of hosts is his name;

and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer,

the God of the whole earth he is called.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • 1 Chronicles 29:12-14

“Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given 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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Galatians 3:1-14

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...

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem, may your church be a sign of hope and glory.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly risen from the dead, our Alpha and Omega, may the whole world live in peace and justice, according to Your will.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of promise, fulfill the needs and desires of those who are sick or sorrowful.

Lord, have mercy.

All powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace.

Teach us to proclaim the good news of your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

God, teach us to pray as your Son taught His disciples, saying

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.

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.

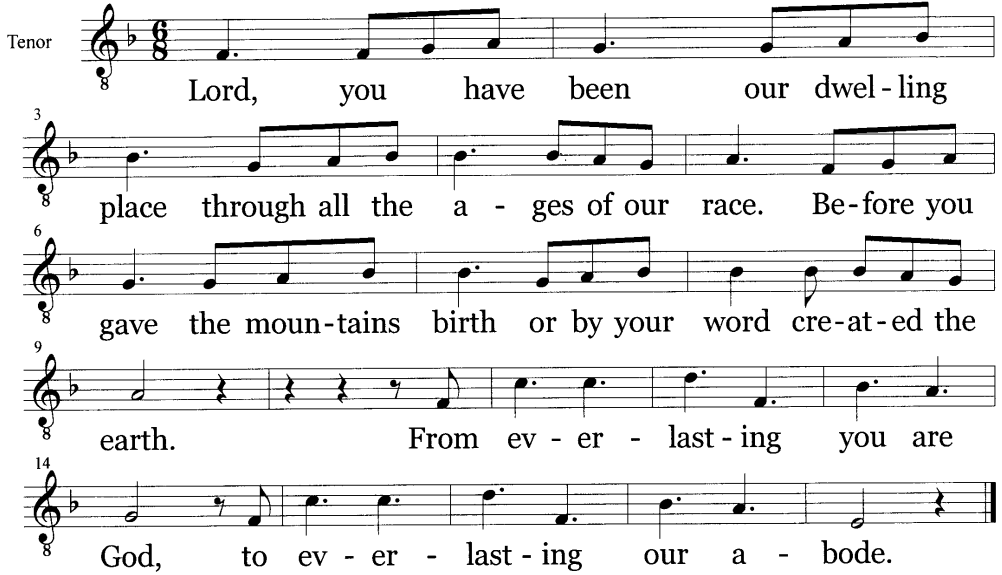
While all my enemies look on, you spread a royal feast;
you fill my cup, anoint my head, and treat me as your guest.

(Chorus)

Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place

Text: Psalm 90 (1912 Psalter) • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



Lord, you have been our dwel - ling
place through all the a - ges of our race. Be - fore you
gave the moun - tains birth or by your word cre - at - ed the
earth. From ev - er - last - ing you are
God, to ev - er - last - ing our a - bode.

A thousand years are in your sight
brief as a portion of the night.
Short as a dream our seasons pass;
our lives are like the tender grass,
Luxuriant at the break of day,
that in the evening fades away.

Your anger brings us sorrow, grief;
your wrath brings fear without relief.
Before your clear and searching sight
our secret sins are brought to light.
Beneath your wrath we pine and die,
our life expiring with a sigh.

O teach us, Lord, to count our days
and set our hearts on wisdom's ways.
Turn, Lord, to us in our distress,
in pity now your servants bless.
Let mercy's dawn dispel our night
and all our day with joy be bright.

Let mercy's dawn dispel our night
and all our day with joy be bright.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Genesis 11:27 – 12:4

Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. ²⁸ Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹ And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. ³⁰ Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

³¹ Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. ³² The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.

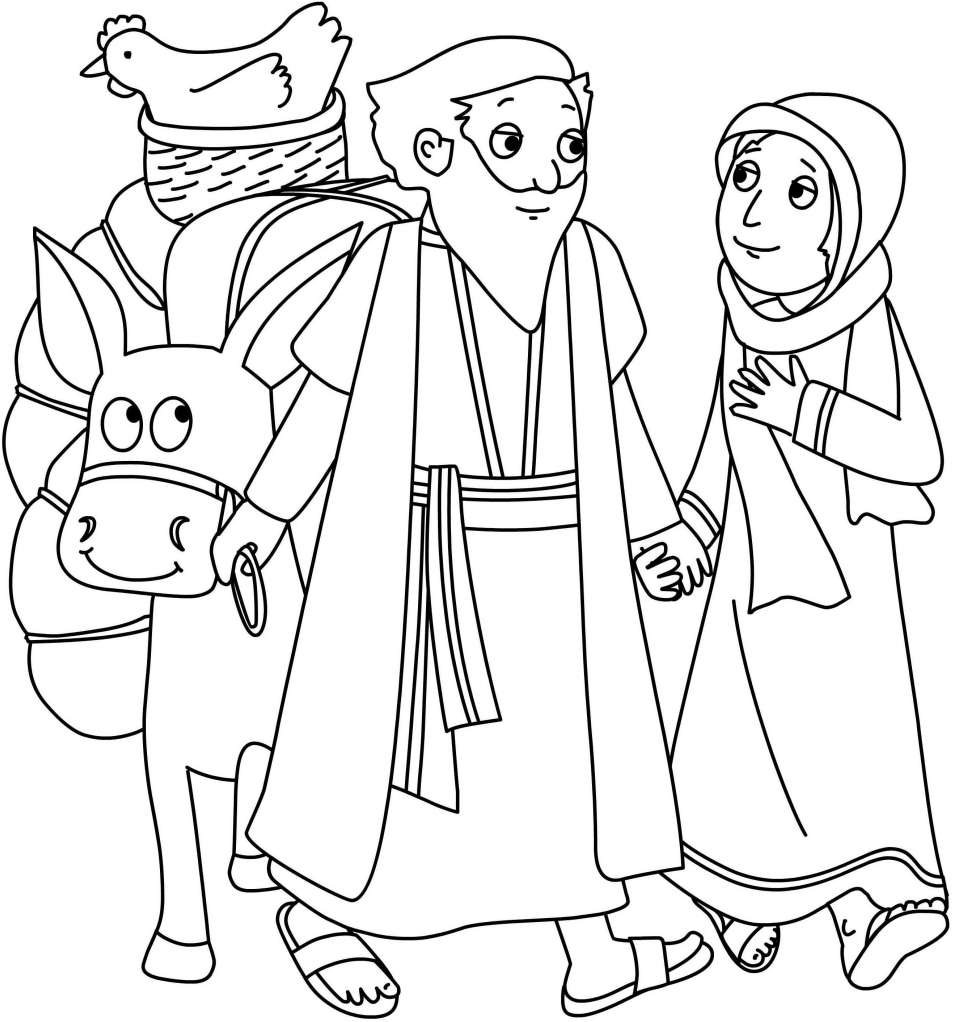
^{12:1} Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "That You May Be A Blessing" (Trey Martin)



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 60

How are you right with God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. 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.*")

Be Still, My Soul

Text: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752 • Music: *Finlandia*, arr. Jean Sibelius • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your
4 Be still, my soul: your God will un - der
8 Be still, my soul: when dear - est friends de -
8 side; _____ bear pa - tient - ly the
4 take _____ to guide the - fu - ture
7 part, _____ and all is dark - ened
8 cross of grief or pain; _____ leave to your
10 as he has the of the past, _____ Your hope, your
8 in the vale of tears, _____ then shall you
8 God to or - der and pro - vide; _____
13 con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake; _____
8 bet - ter know his love, his heart, _____
8 _____ in ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re -
16 _____ all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
8 _____ who come to soothe your sor - row and your
8 main. _____ Be still, my soul: your
19 last. _____ Be still, my soul: the
8 fears. _____ Be still, my soul: your
8 best, your heav'n - ly Friend _____ through thorn - y
22 waves and winds still know _____ his voice who
8 Je - sus can re - pay _____ from his own
8 ways _____ leads to a joy - ful end.
8 ruled _____ them while he dwelt be - low.
8 full - ness all he takes a - way.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Love Me To The End

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

Tenor



8 A beg - ar poor, at mer - cy's door, lies
A wick - ed heart is no small part, of
3 My stub - born will op - pos - es still, Thy
8 such a wretch as I; Thou know'st my need is
my dist - ress and shame; Let sover - eign grace its
6 wise and ho - ly hand; Thy spi - rit send to
8 great in - deed, Lord hear me when I cry.
crimes ef - face, through Jes - sus' bles - sed name.
9 make it bend, to Thy su - preme com - mand.
8 With guilt be - set and deep in debt, for
My dark - ened mind I dail - y find, is
11 Af - fect - ions wild by sin def - iled, oft
8 pard - on Lord, I pray; O let Thy love suf -
prone to go as - tray; Lord on it shine with
14 hur - ry me a - way; Lord, bring them home nor
8 fi - cient prove, to take my sins a - way.
light di - vine, and guide it in Thy way.
let them roam, from Christ the Li - ving Way.

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 • Jude 1-2

To those who are called,
beloved in God the Father
and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

~

Please welcome Trey Martin, a current seminary student at Covenant, our denominational seminary in St. Louis, and a summer intern for Oaks Parish, our sister church plant in Portland. Trey grew up in a suburb of Atlanta and studied Electrical Engineering during undergrad at Clemson University in South Carolina. While doing an engineering internship during college, Trey realized that he was drawn more toward a career that allowed him to spend more time with people and discuss things pertaining to the Gospel. As a result, he served as an intern for two years at a campus ministry at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. After his internship concluded, he sought further training for ministry by attending Covenant, and has finished two years of his probably four year Master of Divinity degree.

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.

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After Worship • Please stay a while and join us for coffee and conversation! We take a break from Sunday School and Sermon Discussion for the summer. (If you're interested in being a teacher next year, please contact Joe Pope: pope.joe@gmail.com.)

Summer Potluck • Today at the home of Joe and Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany Street, Tigard).

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: Jaques / ____

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: Rickis

Next week: Elliott



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.