

*Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made,
were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.*

Frederick M. Lehman, "The Love of God" (1917)



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • SEPTEMBER 16, 2018



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 42:10a

Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth.

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Text: Joachim Neander • Music: Ernewerten Gesangbuch • Public Domain



Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y the King of cre -
Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
Praise to the Lord, Who doth pros - per thy work and de -
Praise to the Lord, Who with mar - ve - lous wis - dom hath
Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul praise Him for
reign - eth, thee; shel - ters thee un - der His
fend - ed; thee; sure - ly His good - ness and
made dore; thee; Him! Decked thee with health - ness and
dore Him! All that hath life and breath,



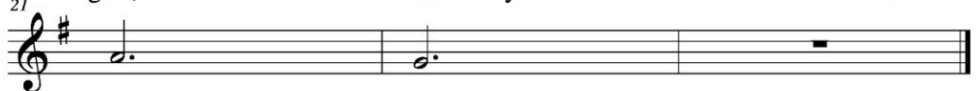
He is thy health and sal - va - tion!
wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth!
mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.
lov - ing hand guid - ed and stayed thee.
come now with prais - es be - fore Him.



All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw
Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y will
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee re -
Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a -



near, _____ join me in glad a - dor -
been _____ grant - ed in in what He or -
do, _____ if with His love He be -
lief, _____ Spread - ing His wings to o'er
gain, _____ Glad - ly for - ev - er a -



a - - - - tion.
dain - - - - eth?
friend thee.
shade thee!
dore Him.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Micah 7:18

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?

He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father in heaven, we thank you for the freedom you have given us through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves. Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting your freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our short-sighted agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Micah 7:19

He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.

You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

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 • Psalm 116

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...

Lord, you built your church and promised to dwell with her forever.

Bless all who guard and feed your sheep, those who shepherd souls, those who care for the poor, those who minister praise, as well as those who teach your Word, that, as you are lifted up, men and women will be drawn to you.

Lord, likewise, you rule over all the nations of the earth.

We pray for peace in every corner of the world: where there is war, where there is persecution, where there is starvation, where there is sickness, as well as every nation where there is suffering, that you will be glorified among the nations.

Lord, out of the depths of eternity you moved in history in the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him was life and the life was our light. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Cause that light to shine ever brighter in us and through us. Amen.

I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say

Text: Horatius Bonar • Music: *Kingsfold* • Public Domain



I ___ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come ___
I ___ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be -
I ___ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I ___



un - to me ___ and rest; Lay ___ down O wear - y one lay down your ___
hold, I free - ly give The ___ liv - ing wa - ter; thirs - ty one, stoop ___
am this dark ___ world's Light; Look ___ unto Me your morn shall rise, and and ___



soul u - pon ___ my breast." I ___ came to Je - sus as I was ___
down, and drink, ___ and live." I ___ came to Je - sus, and I drank of
all your days ___ be bright." I ___ looked to Je - sus, and I found in



wear - y worn ___ and sad I ___ found in Him my rest - ing place and ___
that life - giv - ing stream; My ___ thirst was quenched my soul re - vived and ___
Him my Star, ___ my Sun; and ___ in that light of life I'll walk till ___



He has made ___ me glad.
now I live ___ in Him.
travel - ing days ___ are done.

O Lord, By Grace Delivered

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

Tenor

O Lord, by grace de - liv - ered, I
In pros - p'rous days I boast - ed: un -
now with songs ex - tol; my foes you have not
moved I shall re - main; for Lord, by your good
suf - fered to glo - ry o'er my fall. O Lord, my God, I
fa - vor my cause you did main - tain; I soon was sor - ley
sought you, and you did heal and save; - you,
trou - bled, for you did hide your face; I
Lord, from death did ran - som and keep me from the
cried to you Je - ho - vah, I sought Je - ho - vah's
grave. O Lord, by grace de - li - - vered! - I
grace.
now with songs ex - tol! His ho - ly name re -
mem - ber! - You saints, Je - ho - vah praise!

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 21:15-25

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

²⁰ Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” ²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” ²² Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!” ²³ So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

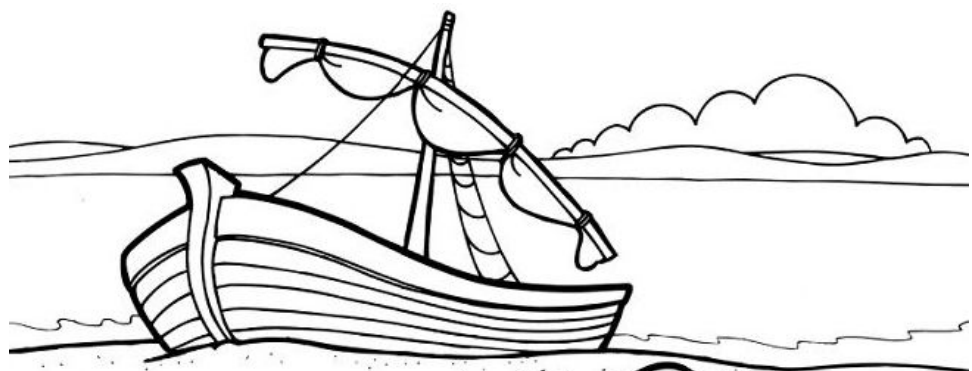
²⁴ This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵ Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “Do You Love Me?” (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. 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 catholic[†] 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

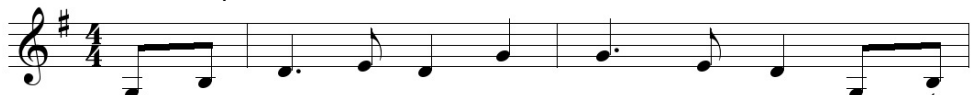
(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after 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 for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

* 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.

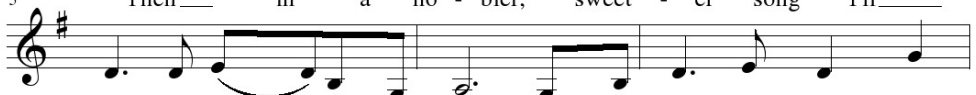
† Or, “universal.”

There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood

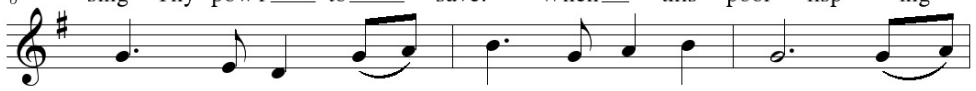
Text: William Cowper • Music: Lowell Mason • Public Domain



There is a foun - tain filled with blood drawn
The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that
Dear dy - ing Lamb, Thy pre - cious blood shall
For since by faith I saw the stream Thy
3 Then in a no - bler, sweet - er song I'll



from I - man - uels' veins; and sin - ners plunged be -
foun - tain in his day; and there may I though
nev - er lose its power till all the ran - somed
flow - ing wounds sup - ply, Re - deem - ing love has
6 sing Thy pow'r to save: When this poor lisp - ing



neath that flood lose all their guil - ty stains; lose
vile as he, wash all my sins a - way: wash
church of God are saved to sin no more: are
9 been my theme and shall be till I die. And
stamm' ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave. Lies



all their guil - ty stains lose all their guil - ty
all my sins a - way wash all my sins a -
saved to sin no more, are saved to sin no
12 shall be till I die and shall be till I
si - lent in the grave, lies si - lent in the



stains and sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose
way; and there may I though vile as he, wash
more; till all the ran - somed church of God are
15 die; Re - deem - ing love has been my theme and
grave; when this poor lisp - ing stamm' - ring tongue lies



all their guil - ty stains.
all my sins a - way.
saved, to sin no more.
shall be till I die.
si - lent in the grave.

It Is Well With My Soul

Text: Horatio G. Spafford • Music: Phillip P. Bliss • Public Domain

Tenor

8
When peace, like a riv - er, at -
Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though
3
My sin, O the bliss of this
8
tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like sea bil - lows
tri - als should come, let this blest as - sur - ance con -
7
glo - ri - ous thought! My sin, not in part, but the
8
roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
11
whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
8
say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is
taste, and has shed His own blood for my soul.
15
more; Praise the Lord! It is well with my soul!
8
well... with my soul; it is well, it is well with my
21
soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.

(Chorus x2)

BENEDICTION • Psalm 29:11

May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

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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!

Sunday School • We're planning to restart Sunday School and Sermon Discussion on October 7. If you're wondering whether you could help with a class, please talk to Joe Pope: pope.joe@gmail.com.

Membership Lunch • All newcomers and folks interested in exploring membership at Ascension are welcome to join the elders for lunch on Sunday, October 21, after Worship and Sunday School, at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We'll talk about the basic ideas and process of becoming a member, and we're happy to address any questions you might have. RSVP (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

Women's Retreat • Fri. - Sun., Nov. 2-4, in Lincoln City. (More details forthcoming...) To RSVP, or to help with organizing the trip or with meals, please contact Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@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)

Today: ____ / ____ Next week: ____ / Bonifield

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: Bonifield Next week: Jaques



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.