

"Christ is human indeed but beyond all humans;  
he is among humans but beyond them;  
he takes his human birth from humankind, but he is beyond all humankind."

"He came to us with the word of grace on his lips, with the kiss of grace...  
If he had come as a strict judge, without this grace bedewing his lips,  
who would have had any hope of salvation?"

Augustine



# ASCENSION

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## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 10, 2019



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 29:2**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

# Fairest Lord Jesus

Text: *Münster Gesangbuch* (Anonymous German Hymn, 1677)

Music: Silesian Folk Song (1842) • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Fair-est Lord Je - sus, Rul-er of all na - ture,  
Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
5 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
8 Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring:  
9 and all the twink - ling star - ry host:  
13 Thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or, thou,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, who  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than  
8 my souls glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
all the an - gels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations! Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 2:1**

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Creator God, you have given us everything we have, including our very selves. Yet we have refused to receive what we have as gifts, because we reject you as the Giver. We are ungrateful. We boast as if we were self-made and self-sufficient. We hoard what we have, not believing in your future generosity. We gratify ourselves and consume as much as we can without sharing. We withhold ourselves from you and others, because we do not delight in giving like you do. But you live forever as Giver, Gift, and Given, and you have even given yourself to us. In your mercy, forgive us. In your grace, fill us with your Gift-life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

(Silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 2:2**

He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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.*

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • Ephesians 5:25–32

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

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...

(Elder prays)

And now as our Savior taught us, we 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.*

## God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51)

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

Voice

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'God be mer - ci - ful to me — on thy grace I rest my plea; plen - te - ous in com - pas - sion Thou — blot out my trans - gres - sions now; wash me make me pure with - in — cleanse O cleanse me from my sin.'

God be mer - ci - ful to me —  
on thy grace I rest my plea; plen - te - ous in com -  
pas - sion Thou — blot out my trans -  
gres - sions now; wash me make me pure  
with - in — cleanse O cleanse me from my sin.

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.

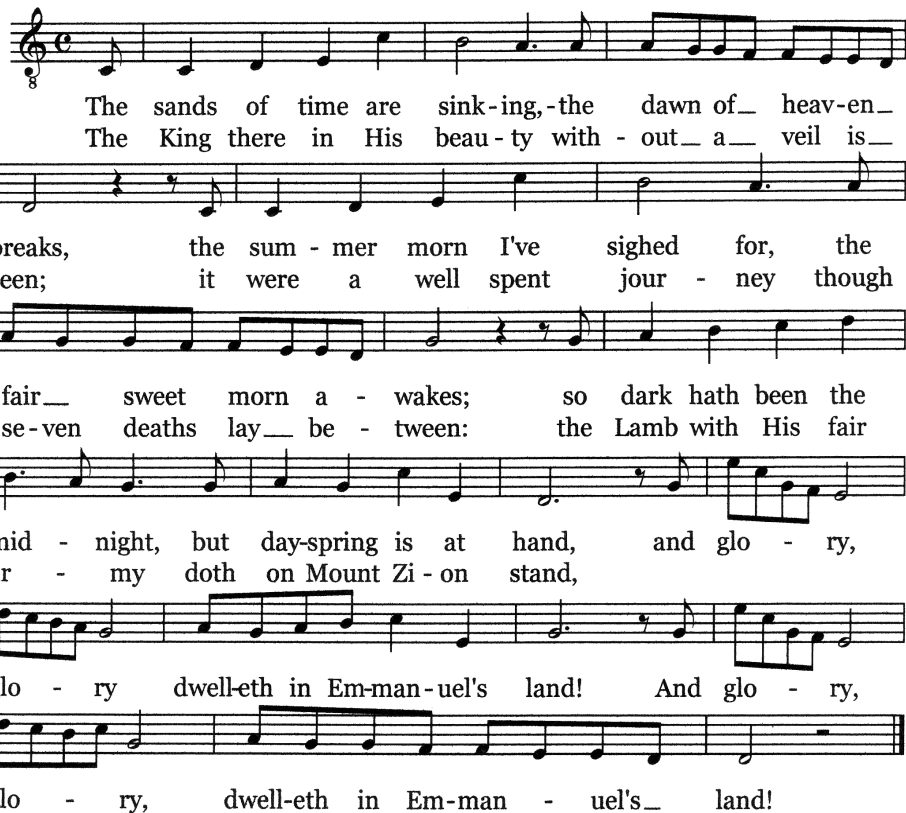
Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;  
cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me;  
thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

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.

## The Sands Of Time Are Sinking

Text: Anne R. Cousin • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



8 The sands of time are sink-ing, - the dawn of heav-en -  
4 The King there in His beau - ty with - out a veil is -  
8 breaks, the sum - mer morn I've sighed for, the  
7 seen; it were a well spent jour - ney though  
8 fair sweet morn a - wakes; so dark hath been the  
10 se-ven deaths lay be - tween: the Lamb with His fair  
8 mid - night, but day-spring is at hand, and glo - ry,  
14 ar - my doth on Mount Zi - on stand,  
8 glo - ry dwell-eth in Em-man-uel's land! And glo - ry,  
18 glo - ry, dwell-eth in Em-man - uel's land!

O Christ, he is the fountain, the deep sweet well of love!  
The streams of earth I've tasted, more deep I'll drink above;  
there to an ocean fullness his mercy doth expand,

*(Chorus)*

The bride eyes not her garment, but eyes her bridegroom's face;  
I will not gaze at glory, but on my King of grace;  
not on the crown he gifteth, but on his pierced hands:

*(Chorus)*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 45

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO LILIES. A MASKIL OF THE SONS OF KORAH; A LOVE SONG.

- 1 My heart overflows with a pleasing theme;  
I address my verses to the king;  
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- 2 You are the most handsome of the sons of men;  
grace is poured upon your lips;  
therefore God has blessed you forever.
- 3 Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,  
in your splendor and majesty!
- 4 In your majesty ride out victoriously  
for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness;  
let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!
- 5 Your arrows are sharp  
in the heart of the king's enemies;  
the peoples fall under you.
- 6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.  
The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;  
7 you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.  
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;  
8 your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.  
From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;  
9 daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;  
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- 10 Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear:  
forget your people and your father's house,  
11 and the king will desire your beauty.  
Since he is your lord, bow to him.
- 12 The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,  
the richest of the people.
- 13 All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.  
14 In many-colored robes she is led to the king,  
with her virgin companions following behind her.
- 15 With joy and gladness they are led along  
as they enter the palace of the king.
- 16 In place of your fathers shall be your sons;  
you will make them princes in all the earth.
- 17 I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;  
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

**SERMON • “A Love Song” (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].)

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\* 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.”

## **We Will Feast In The House Of Zion**

Sandra McCracken, Joshua Moore • © 2015 Drink Your Tea Music

*(Chorus)*

*We will feast in the house of Zion.  
We will sing with our hearts restored.  
“He has done great things!” we will say together.  
We will feast and weep no more!*

We will not be burned by the fire.  
He is the Lord our God;  
we are not consumed, by the flood;  
upheld, protected, gathered up.

*(Chorus)*

In the dark of night, before the dawn,  
my soul, be not afraid;  
for the promised morning— oh, how long?  
O God of Jacob, be my strength.

*(Chorus)*

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed.  
You are the Faithful one.  
And from the garden to the grave,  
bind us together, bring shalom.

*(Chorus)*

# 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 • 1 Thessalonians 3:12

May the Lord make you increase and abound  
in love for one another and for all.

~

*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 for coffee and conversation! (There will be no Sunday School today.)

**Congregational Meeting** • Today after Worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect Brian Aznoe and Bill Duncan to the office of Deacon, and Tim Sery to the office of Elder. These men were nominated by the congregation, have been trained and examined by the current officers, and are approved by the Session to stand for election. We recommend that you elect them all. Everyone is welcome at the congregational meeting; it is especially important for members to attend in order to vote.

**Potluck Lunch** • Today after the Congregational Meeting in the fellowship hall.

**Refreshments Volunteers** • Bringing refreshments to share at church is a great way to practice hospitality. Contact: Nicole Hamilton ([neh.hamilton@gmail.com](mailto:neh.hamilton@gmail.com))

Today: Bonifield

Next week: Elliott

**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: Elliott

Next week: Aznoe



**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.)

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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.