

“What will come of what I am doing today or shall do tomorrow?
What will come of my whole life?
Why should I live, why wish for anything, or do anything?
Is there any meaning in my life that the inevitable death awaiting me does not destroy?”
Leo Tolstoy

“God’s eternity is the answer, not simply the antithesis, to our homelessness and our brevity of life.”
Derek Kidner



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JULY 14, 2019



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 95:6-8a

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker!

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Text: Reginald Heber • Music: John Dykes • Public Domain



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ Lord___ God Al - migh - ty!___
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ All the saints a - dore Thee,___
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ though the dark - ness hide Thee,___
5 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ Lord___ God Al - migh - ty!___



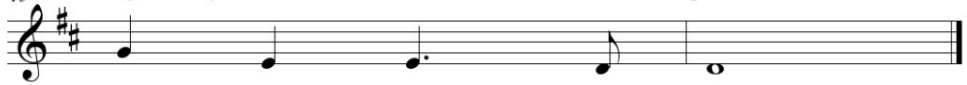
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not
8 All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and



Thee. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!___ Mer - ci - ful and
sea; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be -
see; On - ly Thou art ho - ly;___ there is none be -
12 sea; Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly;___ mer - ci - ful and



migh - ty!___ God in three per - sons,___
fore Thee,___ Who wert, and art, and___
side Thee,___ Per - fect in pow'r, in___
15 migh - ty!___ God in Three per - sons,___



bles - ed Trin - i - ty!
ev - er - more shalt be.
love, and pur - i - ty.
bles - ed Trin - i - ty!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 50:7-9a

The Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like a flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy Trinity, God of love, our Creator and Redeemer; we are living paradoxes. Even though you made us in your image, we distort the reflection of your glory in our self-love. Even though you grant us every good gift—including the gift of our very selves—we refuse to accept your generosity in our demand to be self-made. In our sin we have violated your reality, and yet we have convinced ourselves that we have done no such thing. In reaching out to seize life apart from you, we have lost everything. But our betrayal could not stop your love. You came into the world in the person of your Son to seek and to save the lost. Save us from ourselves, and help us to find ourselves in the Beloved, forgiven and accepted. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 8:31, 33-34

If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who is interceding for us.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Malachi 3:10

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.”

OFFERTORY

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 • 2 Peter 3:8-13

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, you rule over the nations of the earth in justice and mercy.
Give wisdom to our President and representatives in Congress. Bring peace between the nations of the world. We plead for your mercy on our nation.

Holy Spirit, you are the Lord and giver of life.
Protect and defend Ascension Church and our sister congregations in and around Portland. Spread your gospel in this place. We ask for protection and prosperity for our city.

Jesus, you are full of compassion.
Relieve the suffering of the poor and oppressed in our city. Bring healing and joy to those who are ill or facing imminent death, and to those who care for them.

Our Father, you have set us here to cultivate and develop your creation.
Please give us delight and diligence in our callings. Provide for those seeking work. Make us a blessing to our city through our work.

And teach us to pray as you taught your 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.*

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music

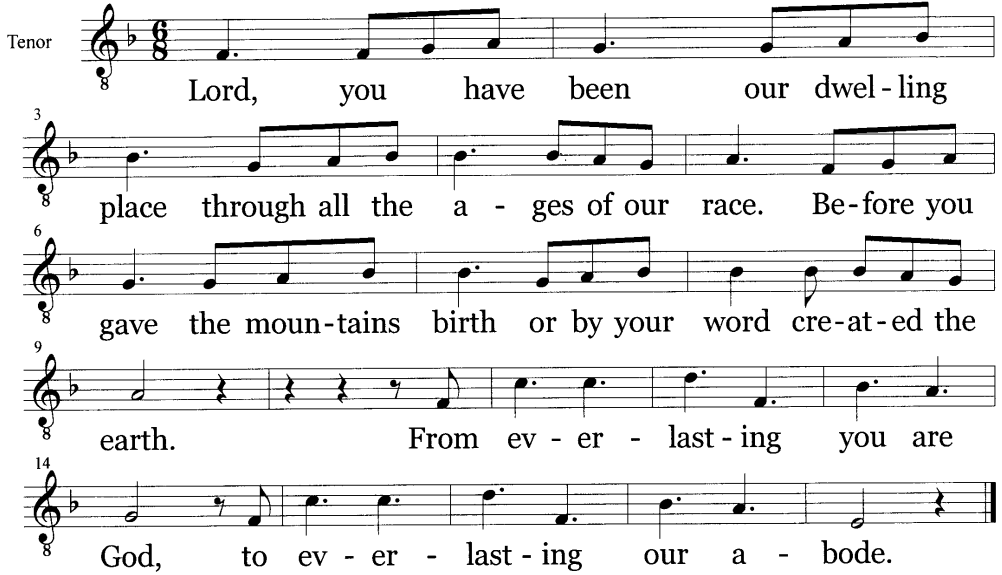
The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'How Deep The Father's Love For Us'. It consists of ten staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score is numbered 1 through 15 at the beginning of each staff.

How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how
Be - hold the man up - on the cross, my
I will not boast in an - y thing, no
vast be - yond all mea - sure, that
sin up - on His should - ers; a -
gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but
He should give His on - ly Son to
shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
I will boast in Je - sus Christ, His
make a wretch His trea - sure. How
out a - mong the scof - fers. It
death and res - ur - rect - ion. Why
great the pain of sear - ing loss; the Fa - ther turns His
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac -
should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an
face a - way as wounds which mar the
com - plished. His dy - ing breath has
an - swer, but this I know with
cho - sen one bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
brought me life, I know that it is fin - ished.
all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

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 dwelling
place through all the ages of our race. Before you
gave the mountains birth or by your word created the
earth. From ever-lasting you are
God, to ever-lasting our abode.

2. 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.
3. 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.
4. For three-score and ten we wait,
or four-score years if strength be great.
Yet grief and toil attend life's day,
our lives soon pass; we fly away.
Oh, who with true and reverent thought
can fear your anger as he ought?
5. 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 90

A PRAYER OF MOSES, THE MAN OF GOD.

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:
6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
- 7 For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.
- 8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.
- 11 Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?
- 12 So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.
- 13 Return, O LORD! How long?
Have pity on your servants!
- 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- 15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.
- 16 Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
- 17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "Eternity" (Rev. Eric Costa)



**THE LORD
NEVER
CHANGES.
MALACHI 3:6**



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.”

May Our God Be Known (Psalm 67)

Text & Music: © 2017 Wendell Kimbrough

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics placed below the notes. The lyrics are: "May our God be known for his grace; ___ May the Let the na - tions sing and be glad ___ for the earth re - jice in his bless - ing. May our God be known for his Lord is com ing with jus - tice. Let the na - tions sing and be love, ___ and the smile that shines from his face. May your glad ___ for our God is com - ing with peace. Now let way be known on the earth ___ so that all the na - tions will all the ends of the earth ___ fill with ho - ly won - der and sing ___ and re - jice in know - ing the God of grace! joy, ___ for our God is com - ing to reign as king!"

1
May our God be known for his grace; ___ May the
Let the na - tions sing and be glad ___ for the

3
earth re - jice in his bless - ing. May our God be known for his
Lord is com ing with jus - tice. Let the na - tions sing and be

6
love, ___ and the smile that shines from his face. May your
glad ___ for our God is com - ing with peace. Now let

9
way be known on the earth ___ so that all the na - tions will
all the ends of the earth ___ fill with ho - ly won - der and

12
sing ___ and re - jice in know - ing the God of grace!
joy, ___ for our God is com - ing to reign as king!

(Repeat Song)

Abide With Me

Text: Henry Lyte • Music: Justin Smith • ©2007 Justin Smith Music

Tenor

The image shows a musical score for a Tenor part. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Tenor' and has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The music is written in a simple, melodic style. Below the first staff, the lyrics are: 'A - bide with me; — fastfallthe e - ven - Thou on my head,in — ear - ly youth didst'. The second staff continues the melody and has the lyrics: 'tide; The dark - ness deepens; Lordwith me a - smile; And, though re - bel - lious, - and per - verse mean -'. The third staff has the lyrics: 'bide. When oth - er help - ers, fail and com - forts while, Thou hast not left me, oft as I left'. The fourth staff has the lyrics: 'flee, help of the help - less, a - bide with me. Thee, on to the close Lord, a - bide with me.' The fifth staff is a final measure of the piece, ending with a double bar line.

A - bide with me; — fastfallthe e - ven -
Thou on my head,in — ear - ly youth didst
tide; The dark - ness deepens; Lordwith me a -
smile; And, though re - bel - lious, - and per - verse mean -
bide. When oth - er help - ers, fail and com - forts
while, Thou hast not left me, oft as I left
flee, help of the help - less, a - bide with me.
Thee, on to the close Lord, a - bide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life and death, Lord, abide with me.

BENEDICTION • 2 John 3

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us,
from God the Father
and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son,
in truth and love.

~

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 for coffee and conversation!

Summer Picnic • After Worship on Sun., July 21. Join us at the Walnut Street Park (18th & Walnut). Please bring food for yourself, and maybe something to share. There is a water feature at the park, so plan accordingly!

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

Today: Aznoe

Next week: C. Boden

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.