

"The ferocious parts of the Psalms serve as a reminder
that there is such a thing as wickedness
and that it is hateful to God."

C. S. Lewis

"Prayer that does not deal in reality is not prayer at all... If we stop dealing with God in the midst of the reality of the world, in the midst of the reality of what's in our own hearts, if we start pretending, if we stop looking for justice and stop addressing God directly about the lack of justice in the world, then, very soon, we shall stop dealing with reality and with God at all. We shall inhabit only illusion and delusion. Our religion will become escapist."

Iain Provan



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • OCTOBER 27, 2019
REFORMATION SUNDAY



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 135:1-5

Praise the LORD!

Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD,
who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God!
Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!
For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.
For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text & Music: Martin Luther (1529) • Public Domain

Alto

A might - y for - tress is our God, a
bul-wark nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a -
mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For
still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his
craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cru - el
hate, on earth is not his e - qual.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is not explicitly marked, but the notation suggests a moderate, steady pace. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:
dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his Name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us:
the Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
his kingdom is forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 3:10-12

As it is written:

“None is righteous, no, not one;
no one understands;
no one seeks for God.

All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.”

CONFESSION OF SIN

Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to you and ask that you forgive us and cover us in Christ. Let us hear your voice telling us that his blood is our peace, his death our freedom, his smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that your service is perfect freedom. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 5:1

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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 • Romans 12:9–21

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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...

Most gracious God, who has promised to reveal his glory among all nations,
Hear us as we pray for your church. Bless all the ministers of your word and sacraments and unite all Christians in the bonds of holy faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God of our fathers, who has promised to take care of our every need,
Give us peaceful times and fruitful seasons. Grant all in authority over us wisdom and strength to do your will through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful Father, comfort all who believe the good news of your grace.
We pray for all who are distressed: the poor, the homeless, the sick, the bereaved, and those afflicted in body and mind. Comfort and relieve them according to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music

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.

Rock Of Ages

Text: Augustus M. Toplady • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

Rock of A - ges cleft for me, let me hide my -
Not the la - bors of my hands, can ful - fil thy
Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy
4 self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood,
law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know,
7 cross I cling; na - ked come to thee for dress;
8 from thy ri - ven side which flowed, be of sin the
could my tears for - ev - er flow, all for sin could
10 help - less, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the
8 dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.
Foun - tain fly; wash me Sav - ior or I die.
13 Rock of Ag - es, cleft for me! Let me
16 hide my - self in thee! Rock of Ag - es, cleft for
19 me! Oh my Je - sus res - cue me!

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

(Chorus)

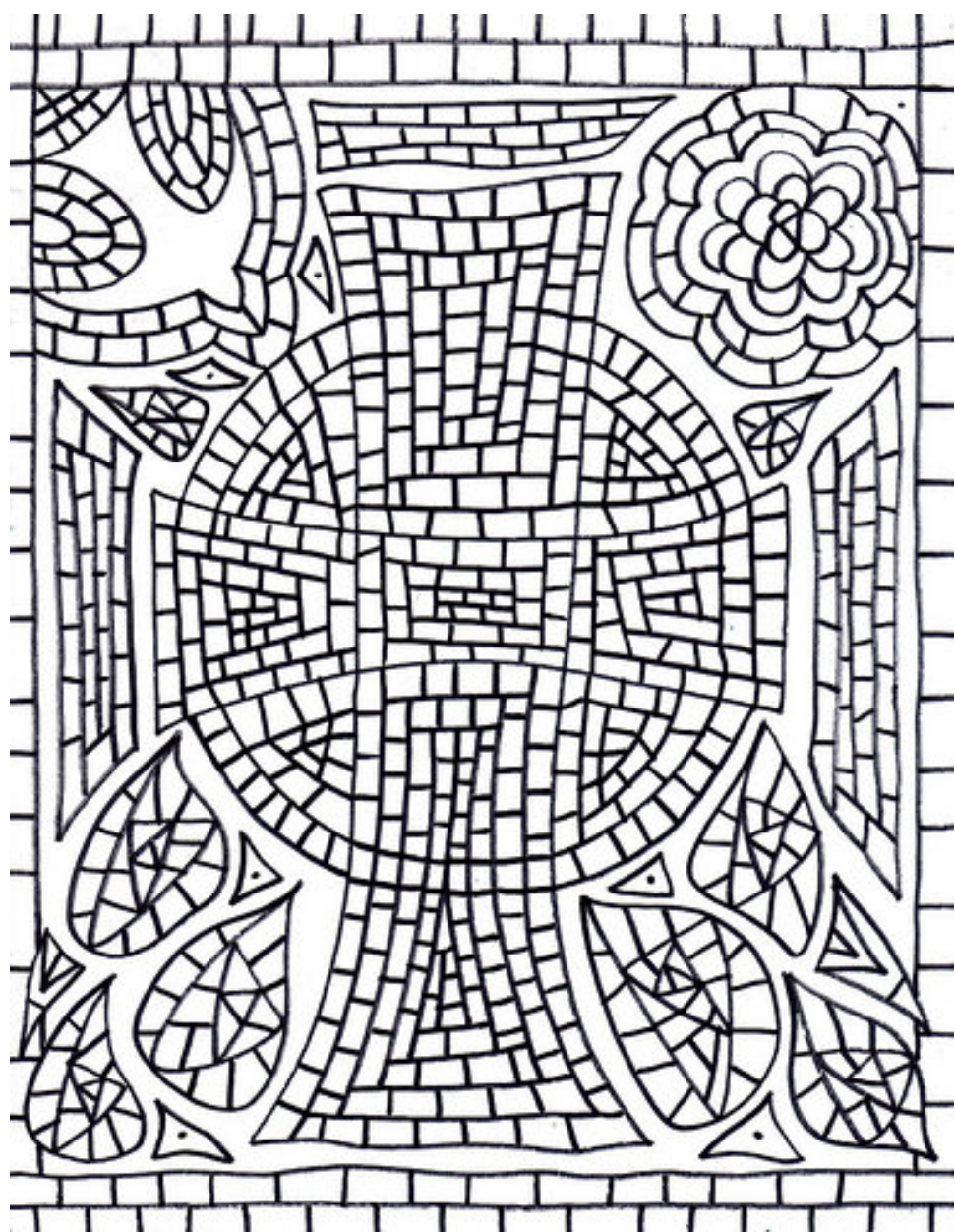
OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 137

- 1 By the waters of Babylon,
there we sat down and wept,
when we remembered Zion.
- 2 On the willows there
we hung up our lyres.
- 3 For there our captors
required of us songs,
and our tormentors, mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”
- 4 How shall we sing the LORD’s song
in a foreign land?
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand forget its skill!
- 6 Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy!
- 7 Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem,
how they said, “Lay it bare, lay it bare,
down to its foundations!”
- 8 O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed,
blessed shall he be who repays you
with what you have done to us!
- 9 Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones
and dashes them against the rock!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Keeping It Real” (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.”

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Text: Edward Mote • Music: William Bradbury • Public Domain



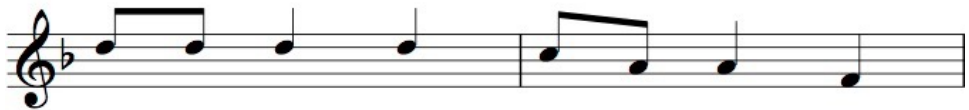
1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and
2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un-
3 His oath, his co-ve-nant, his blood, sup-port me in the
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in



right eous-ness: I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
chang-ing grace; in ev-ery high and stor-my gale, my
whelm ing flood; when all a-round my soul gives way, he
him be found: dressed in his right eous-ness a-lone, fault-



whol-ly lean on Je-sus' name.
an-chor holds with-in the veil. On Christ, the so-lid
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be-fore the throne.



Rock, I stand: all o-ther ground is



sin-king sand; all o-ther ground is sin-king sand.

Glorify Your Name

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Fa - ther we love you we wor - ship and a - dore you,
5 glo - ri - fy your name in all the earth, glo -
9 ri - fy your name, glo - ri - fy
14 your name, glo - ri - fy your name
19 in all the earth.

Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you,
glorify your name in all the earth.
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you,
glorify your name in all the earth.
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.

BENEDICTION • 1 Corinthians 16:22-23

If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed.

Our Lord, come!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

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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 for coffee and conversation! Around 11:45am we will begin Sunday School classes for the children in the sanctuary, and Sermon Discussion for the adults in the fellowship hall. (Infants and toddlers are welcome to join the adults in Sermon Discussion.)

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Nov. 3) we participate together in some compassion and relief ministries to help each other and our neighbors in the community...

- ALMS — These gifts go toward a fund the deacons use to meet urgent needs as we are made aware of them. (If you need financial help, please let us know! Contact: deacons@ascensionpc.org.)
- FOOD PANTRY — The elementary school in the church's neighborhood, W. L. Henry, is an Oregon Food Bank site that serves about 50 families who rely on help like this. *Please bring dry beans to donate—let's try to collect 100 items in total!*

Monthly Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., Nov. 9 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We'll discuss the Seventh Commandment. (Check applyingthegospel.com this week for the blog post we'll discuss together.) RSVP and let Eric know what part of the meal you'll bring, and if you'll have a friend with you (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

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

Today: Jaques

Next week: Stevenson

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Join the nursery rotation! Contact: Rainyrr (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Stevenson

Next week: Jaques



Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro
ascensionpc.org • facebook.com/ascensionpc • twitter.com/ascensionpc

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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.