



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • DECEMBER 1, 2019
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 150:1-2, 6

Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens!
Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his excellent greatness!
Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

The People That In Darkness Sat

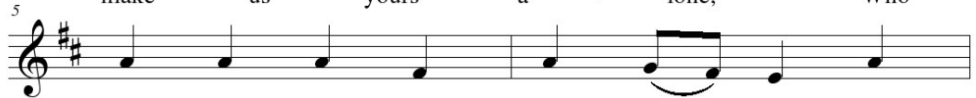
Text: Paraphrase of Isaiah 9:2-7 • Music: John Morison • Public Domain



The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat a
To hail you, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, the
To us the Child of hope is born, to
His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the
His righ - teous gov - ern - ment and pow'r shall
Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and



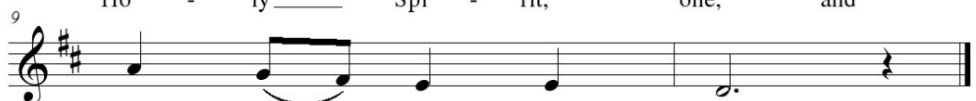
glo - rious light have seen; The
gath - 'ring na - tions come; They
us the Son is giv'n, And
Ev - er - last - ing Lord, The
o - ver all ex - tend; On
make us yours a - lone, Who



light has shined on them who long in
joy as when the reap - ers bear their
on his shoul - der ev - er rests all
Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the
judg - ment and on jus - tice based, his
with the Fa - ther ev - er are and



shades of death have been, in
har - vest trea - sures home, their
pow'r in earth and heav'n, all
God by all a - dored, the
reign shall have no end, his
Ho - ly Spi - rit, one, and



shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home.
pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored.
reign shall have no end.
Ho - ly Spi - rit, one.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father of mercies, we confess that we have sinned against you. By your Holy Spirit, come and work repentance into our hearts. Help us to see you as you are: with outstretched arms, a loving heart, and power to save. Help us to see Jesus, the friend of sinners, and to follow him more faithfully. As we have received him, so strengthen us to walk in him, depend on him, commune with him, and be conformed to him. Give us an experience of your grace that makes us bold for others, that we might joyfully tell our friends and neighbors of your saving mercy. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Psalm 50:14

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and perform your vows to the Most High.

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.

GOSPEL READING • Mark 6:1–6

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?" ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴ And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." ⁵ And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶ And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

(From David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-13)

Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

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.

And we pray your beloved Son's prayer:

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.

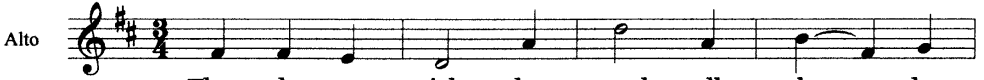
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

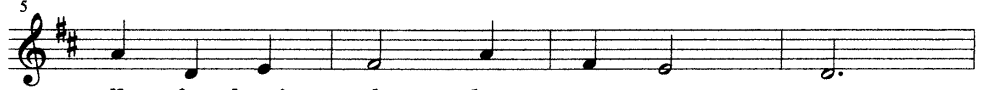
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

Text: Frank Houghton • Music: French Carol Melody • Public Domain



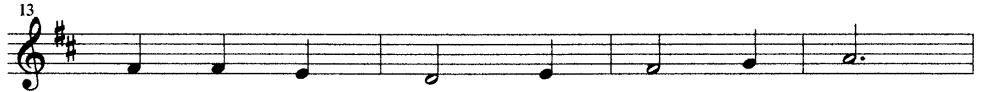
Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor;
all for love's sake be - cam - est man;
Sav - ior and King we wor - ship thee.



thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,



sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor.
heav'n - ward by thine et - ter - nal plan.
make us what thou wouldst have us be.



Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

Of The Father's Love Begotten

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413 • Music: *Divinum Mysterium*, 11th c.



Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the
O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the
This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of
O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel
3 Christ to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O



worlds be - gan to be. he is Al - pha and O - me -
Vir - gin, full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv -
old with one ac - cord, Whom the Scrip - tures of the proph -
hosts, his prais - es sing; All do - min - ions, bow be - fore
6 Ho - ly Ghost, to thee, Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiv -



ga, he the Source, the End - ing he. Of the
ing bore the Sav - ior of our race; and the
ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word; Now he
him and ex - tol our God and King; Let no
9 ing, and un - wear - ied prais - es be, Ho - nor,



things that are that have - been, and that
babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re -
shines, the long - ex - pect - ed; Let cre -
tongue on earth be si - lent, Ev' - ry
12 glo - ry, and do - min - ion, And e -



fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ever - more!
vealed his sa - red face, ev - er - more and ever - more!
a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ever - more!
voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ever - more!
ter - nal vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ever - more!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Isaiah 9:1–7

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

- 2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- 4 For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
- 6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Wonderful Counselor” (Rev. Eric Costa)



THE UPPER ROOM



VOWS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

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].)

The Love of God

Music and Lyrics by F. M. Lehman (1917) • Public Domain

The love of God is great - er far than
When years of time shall pass a - way, and
tongue or pen can ev - er tell; It goes be -
earth - ly thrones and king - doms fall, When men, who
yond the high - est star, and reach - es to the
here re - fuse to pray, on rocks and hills and
low - est hell; The guil - ty pair, bowed down with care,
moun - tains call, God's love so sure, shall en - dure,
God gave His Son to win; His er - ring child
all mea - sure - less and strong; re - deem - ing grace
He rec - on - ciled, and par - doned from his sin.
to A - dam's race; the saints and an - gel's song.
O love of God, how rich and pure! How mea - sure -
less and strong! It shall for - ev - er - more en - dure
the saints and an - gels song!

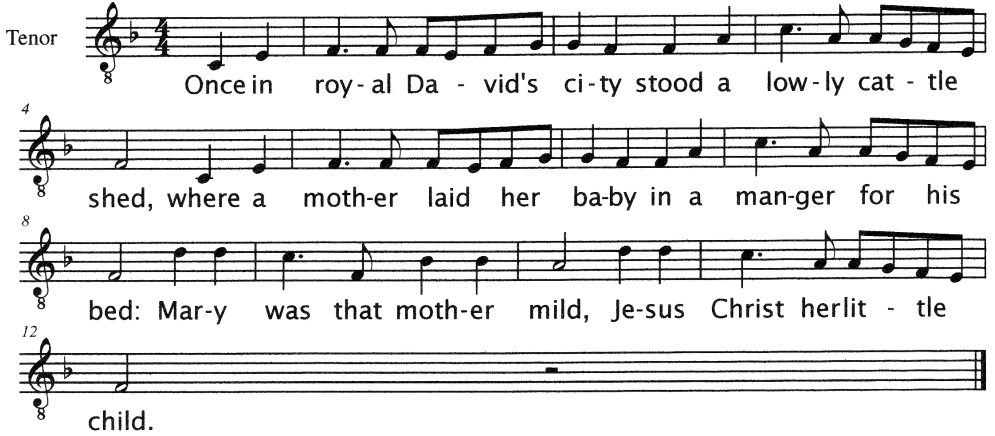
Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made,
were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.

*O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—the saints and angel's song!*

Once In Royal David's City

Text: Cecil Francis Alexander • Music: Henry J. Gauntlett • Public Domain

Tenor



8

4

8

8

12

8

Once in roy-al Da - vid's ci-ty stood a low-ly cat - tle
shed, where a moth-er laid her ba-by in a man-ger for his
bed: Mar-y was that moth-er mild, Je-sus Christ her lit - tle
child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

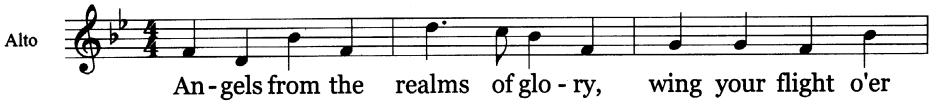
And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall be around.

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

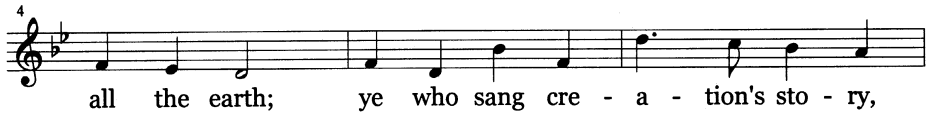
Text: James Montgomery • Music: Henry Smart • Public Domain

Alto



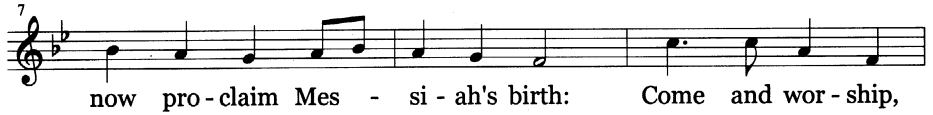
An-gels from the realms of glo-ry, wing your flight o'er

4



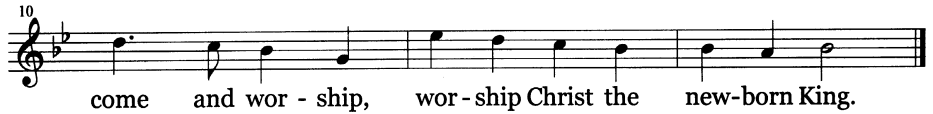
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,

7



now pro-claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,

10



come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing; yonder shines the infant light.

(Chorus)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; you have seen his natal star.

(Chorus)

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.

(Chorus)

Sinners, wrung with true repentance, doomed for guilt to endless pains,
Justice now revokes the sentence, Mercy calls you; break your chains.

(Chorus)

BENEDICTION • 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

~

*Every gathering is an opportunity to invite friends,
to introduce others to the Christ-centered community and life of the church!*

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.)

Advent Choir Practice • 7pm Tuesdays at the church.

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

- **ALMS / MINISTERIAL RELIEF OFFERING** — During Advent each year we participate in a denominational offering to assist needy retired and disabled pastors, missionaries, church lay workers, their widows and dependent children. (Make these checks payable to “RBI Ministerial Relief.”)
- **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., Dec. 7 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We’ll discuss the Eighth 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).

ICS Christmas Gifts • Immigration Counseling Service (ics-law.org) is a non-profit law firm that helps foreign-born residents of Oregon and Southwest Washington, many of whom have been victims of human trafficking. In past years we have provided Christmas gifts to families of their clients. If you can help this year, please contact the deacons (deacons@ascensionpc.org).

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

Today: Wismer

Next week: Aznoe

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Contact: Rainy Aznoe (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Bonifield

Next week: Jaques

•

PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpnetwork.com)

Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org)

Brian & Faith Janssen, Missionaries in Taiwan with OMF (omf.org/asia/taiwan)



Public Worship • 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro • ascensionpc.org

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Printed songs are used by permission under CCLI license #11109756.

(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.