

“Contrary to the popular summary, the message of Revelation is *not*: Jesus wins.
When Revelation begins, Jesus *has* won.
He is already glorified; he has already received the kingdom.
The message is: *We win...*”

Peter Leithart



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 12, 2020



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 55:1-3a

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.”

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: John Hatton • Public Domain

Tenor



Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the
sun does its suc - ces - sive jour - neys
run, His king - dom stretch from
shore to shore, till moons shall wax and
wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring the highest honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Hebrews 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of grace and truth, show yourself to be our Savior. Our sin is folly and insanity; it is a gloom of deep darkness, and we have lingered there. In our self-centeredness we have spurned your love. We have manipulated and hurt those closest to us. We allow ourselves to believe that our sin is no serious offense, but we have forsaken you and your glorious purpose for our lives. Can it be true that you have not forsaken us? Have you really atoned for our sin by the life and death of your own Son? Grant us confidence in our relationship with you, in spite of all our sin. Make us to know that we belong to you, and that you belong to us, through the sure word of your Gospel and the power of your Holy Spirit. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Hebrews 4:15

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 10:8

"Freely you have received. Freely give."

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 89:19–37

19 Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:

*"I have granted help to one who is mighty;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.*

20 I have found David, my servant;

with my holy oil I have anointed him,

21 so that my hand shall be established with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.

22 The enemy shall not outwit him;
the wicked shall not humble him.
23 I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.
24 My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him,
and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
25 I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.
26 He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'
27 And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
28 My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
29 I will establish his offspring forever
and his throne as the days of the heavens.
30 If his children forsake my law
and do not walk according to my rules,
31 if they violate my statutes
and do not keep my commandments,
32 then I will punish their transgression with the rod
and their iniquity with stripes,
33 but I will not remove from him my steadfast love
or be false to my faithfulness.
34 I will not violate my covenant
or alter the word that went forth from my lips.
35 Once for all I have sworn by my holiness;
I will not lie to David.
36 His offspring shall endure forever,
his throne as long as the sun before me.
37 Like the moon it shall be established forever,
a faithful witness in the skies."

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 G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. 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.

God Of My Life

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800) • Music: Benj Pocta, Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy
©2007 Red Mountain Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'God Of My Life'. It consists of a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The score is divided into systems, with line numbers 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 26, and 31 marked at the beginning of each system. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The music ends with a double bar line at the end of the final system.

God of my life to Thee I _____ call;
Friend of the friend-less and the _____ faint,
5 That were a grief I could not _____ bear,
Af - flict - ed at Thy _____ feet I _____ fall;
where should I lodge my _____ deep com - plaint?
9 didst Thou not hear and _____ an - swer _____ prayer;
When the great wa - ter floods pre - - veil,
Where but with Thee whose o - pen _____ door,
13 But a prayer hear - ing, an - swer - ing _____ God,
Leave not my tremb - ling _____ heart to _____ fail.
In - vites the help - less _____ and the _____ poor?
17 sup - ports me un - der _____ ev - 'ry _____ load.
Poor though I am, des - pised, for -
21 got, _____ Yet God, my God, for - gets me not; _____
26 And he is safe, and must suc - ceed, for whom, the
31 Lord is sure to _____ plead.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Revelation 1:4–8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

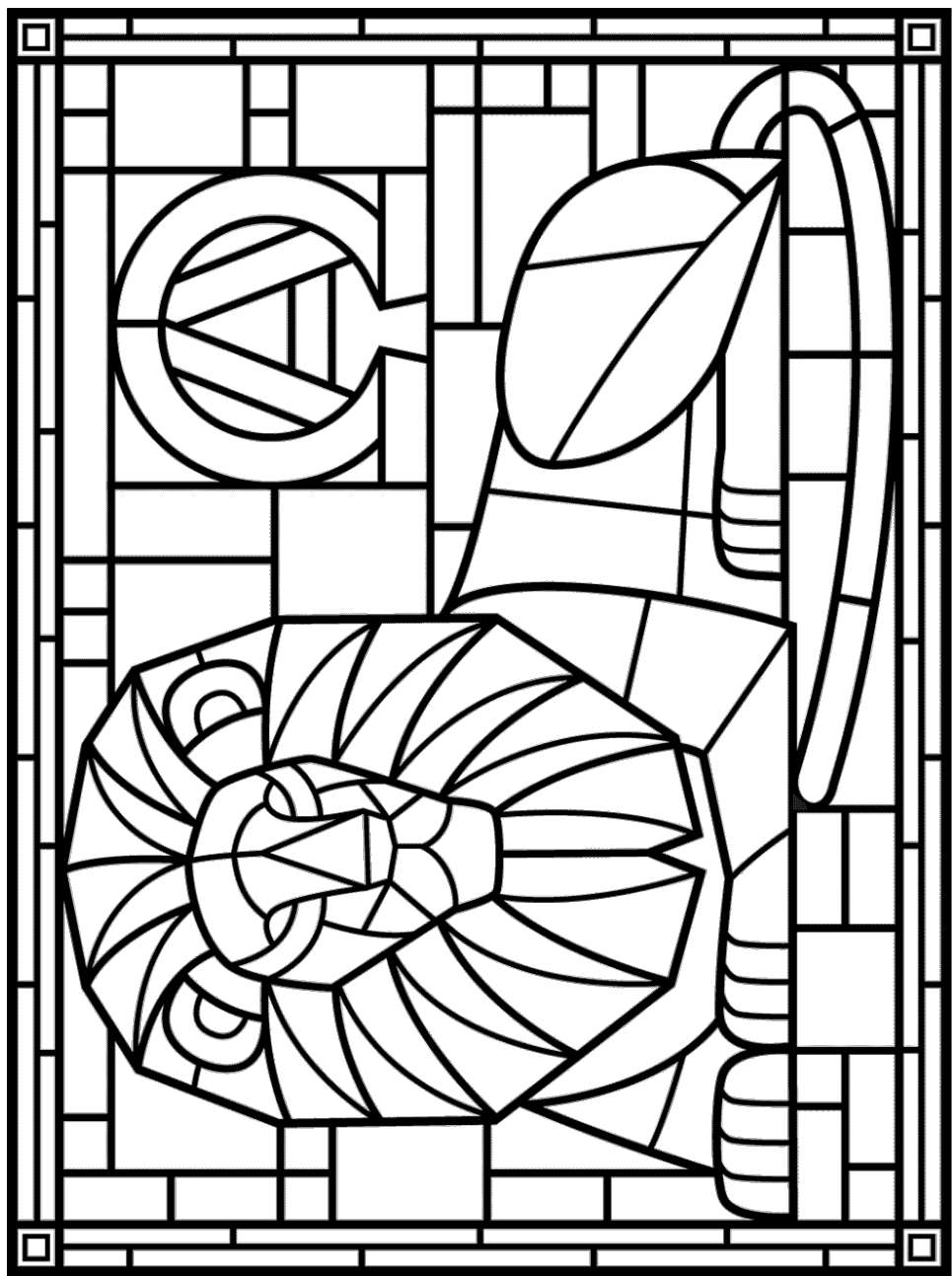
To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “The Alpha and the Omega” (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.”

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!

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)

BENEDICTION • Revelation 1:4-5

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
and from Jesus Christ
the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

~

*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.)

Athanasius Discussion Group • 6pm - 7:30pm Tuesdays, beginning January 28 at the Stevensons' home (5885 NE Tunbridge Street, Hillsboro). Rob and Joanna will host a 10-week series of discussions of Athanasius' fourth-century classic, *On The Incarnation*. Dinner and on-site babysitting will be provided. Rob will order books and make them available to you for about \$5—if you are **planning to attend, please email him so he can get a rough head count for the number of books to order** (robert.james.stevenson@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: Hamilton

Next week: Jaques

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

Today: Aznoe

Next week: Elliott

•
PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.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)

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.

Email / Phone