

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might... Take care lest you forget the LORD... lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.”

Deuteronomy 6:5, 12, 15

“Nobody thinks he loves Jesus more than the doctrinally sound person.”

John Stott

Adhesion to the truth sours into bigotry when the sweetness and light of love to Jesus depart.
Mere hate of evil will tend to evil if love of Jesus be not there to sanctify it.”

Charles Spurgeon

“Jesus isn’t all about tolerance saying, ‘All views are equal.’ He *is* about tolerance in the sense that we would love and respect people with whom we disagree, and that our hearts would break for people in error rather than our minds gloating over them. Do you remember Jesus weeping over Jerusalem? ‘How I *long* to gather you to myself...’ When we see error in the church, when we see corruption in the church and people’s lives broken by false teaching, it’s meant to make us angry, and sad. *But never secretly happy*. You have to root out that secret happiness that comes from doctrinal watch-dogging.”

Charles Garland



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 26, 2020



CALL TO WORSHIP • Hosea 6:3

Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Text: Johann Olearius (1611-1684)

Music: Louis Bourgeois, *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David* (Geneva, 1551) • Public Domain

Tenor

"Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; Tell of peace!" So says our God.
Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
To God's peo - ple now pro - claim That God's par - don waits for them!
Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er!

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!

Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!

For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Hebrews 10:12-14

When Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

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 have rejected you as the Giver. We have been ungrateful. We have boasted as if we were self-made and self-sufficient. We have hoarded our wealth, not believing in your future generosity. We have gratified ourselves and consumed as much as we can without sharing. We have withheld 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 • Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Acts 2:44-45

All who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

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 27

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...

We extol you our God and King. You exist in the mystery of the Trinity as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You live independent of all that you have created. You uphold and govern your creation by your wise and holy providence. Your wisdom is unsearchable, and your thoughts are higher than ours. Your justice is absolute and perfectly fair. There is none like you, the Holy One of Israel.

Yet, as our great God and King, you show mercy and compassion to your creatures.

You dwell with the meek and lowly. Your tender mercies are over all of your works. The broken spirit and the contrite heart you do not despise. You live with us in grace as our Father.

We come to you now through our Lord Jesus Christ to plead for your care for the Church.

Strengthen the churches that proclaim your gospel. Bless the churches and church plants of the Pacific Northwest Presbytery, and especially our church here at Ascension.

We pray also for your help and blessing for our city.

Grant your help and protection to our Mayor and City Council. Please bring financial prosperity to our city. Make Hillsboro a more just and merciful and peaceful community. Help your people to benefit our city and to reflect your grace in our callings.

Father, we thank you for the mercy and kindness you have shown to us in this country.

Give us wisdom in the use of our wealth. We ask for purity in the use of our freedoms. We ask that our leaders might serve with humility, compassion and justice.

Our Savior, we appeal to your great compassion for help to those among us who are suffering.

Heal those who are sick. Encourage those who are discouraged and depressed. Provide for those who are struggling financially. Comfort those who are grieving. Give hope to those who are suffering in guilt and doubt.

Our great God, we ask you to hear us and to work in us that which is pleasing to you, as we pray in the words our Savior taught us:

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.

Before The Throne Of God Above

Text: Charitie Lees Bancroft • Music: Vikki Cook • ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part". The score includes measure numbers 4, 7, 11, 14, and 17.

Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is
love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His
hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that
while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de -
part No tongue can bid me thence de - part

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look to see him there, who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace.
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood,
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God.

Hosanna In The Highest

Text: The Book of Common Prayer • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Ho - san - na to the liv - ing Lord! Ho - san - na to the
O Sav - ior with pro - tect - ing care, a - bide in this thy
4 Be ho - nor, praise, and glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and
8 liv - ing word! Where we thy par - ting prom - ise claim, as -
house of prayer; and make our se - cret soul to be, a
7 all in heav'n, to God the Fa - ther and the Son, and
8 semb - led in thy sa - cred name; to Christ, cre - a - tor
tem - ple pure and ho - ly; be hon - or praise and
10 God the Spi - rit three in one, be hon - or praise and
8 Sa - vior, King, let earth, let heav'n, Ho - san - nas sing! Ho - san - na!
glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n.
14 glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n! _____
8 _ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! in the high - est! _____

(Repeat final chorus)

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Revelation 2:1-7

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

² "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "Your First Love" (Rev. Eric Costa)



Love the
Lord your God
with all your
heart and
with all your
soul and
with all your
mind.

Matthew 22:37



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him. 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].)

Psalm 126

Text & Music: Isaac Wardell • © 2012 Bifrost Arts



1. Our mouths they were filled, fil - led with laugh - ter _____
2. The nat - ions will say, "He has done great things!" _____

7
our tongues, they were loosed, loos - ed with joy. _____
The na - tions will sing songs of joy. _____

13
Re - store us, O Lord! Re - store us, O Lord!

21 **Refrain**
Al - though we are weep - ing, Lord, help us keep sow - ing the

30
seeds of your King - dom for the day you will reap them! Your

38
sheaves we will car - ry; Lord, please do not tar - ry! All

46
those who sow weep - ing, will go out with songs of joy!

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 • Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to you, brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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*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.)

Monthly Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., Feb. 1 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We'll discuss the Tenth 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).

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Feb. 2) 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!

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. RSVP (robert.james.stevenson@gmail.com).

Men's Retreat • Fri. - Sun., Mar. 6-8, in Lincoln City. There is space for 12. The cost is \$90 per person. To register and to sign up for meals, contact Brian Aznoe (baznoe@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: Stevenson

Next week: Sauerwein

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

Today: Childers

Next week: Stevenson

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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

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(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