"Groups can bear the name of church, and have a certain reputation, when it is doubtful that they are truly churches at all. The essence of a church is not its programs, buildings, past achievements, reputation, institutional greatness, or formal doctrinal correctness, but its spiritual life. This life comes only through fellowship with the living Christ, and is demonstrated through the seriousness of repentance and obedience."

Vern Poythress

"There is no participation in Christ without participation in his mission to the world." Lesslie Newbigin

# ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 1, 2020

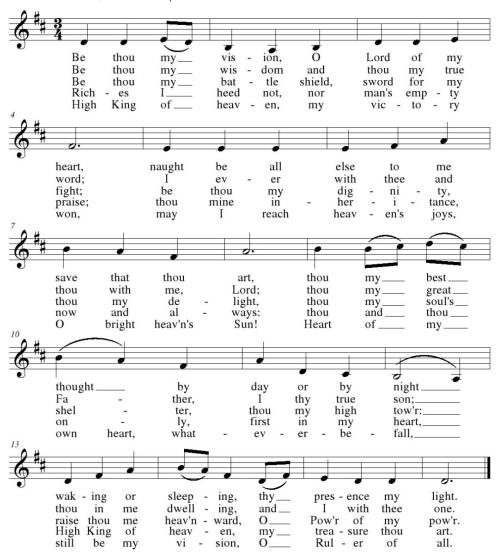


#### CALL TO WORSHIP • Luke 9:23-24

Jesus said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."

#### **Be Thou My Vision**

Text: Unknown, 8th Century • Music: Slane (Irish Folk Tune) • Public Domain



# PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen! *He is risen indeed!* Let us pray...

# CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

# **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His holy name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 4:15

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

May the peace of Christ be with you. *And also with you!* 

# OFFERING • 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

# 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 • Luke 12:4-12

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...

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as the King of kings and the Lord of lords:

We pray for our leaders, near and far, that they might love justice and mercy; we pray for our local leaders, that they might promote the peace of the city.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death in triumph over evil and oppression:

We ask you to restrain the wickedness in our city by your Law; we ask you to destroy the wickedness in our own hearts by your Spirit.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as the Prince of peace:

We pray for peace between nations in your world; we pray that this congregation might live in your peace together; we ask you to come again soon to fully establish your peace on earth.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death to reconcile us to God:

We pray for our friends who do not yet know you; we pray for the deepening of our faith in the Gospel of grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death to reveal life and immortality through the gospel:

We pray for comfort for those who are suffering in grief, in poverty, in sickness, and in injustice.

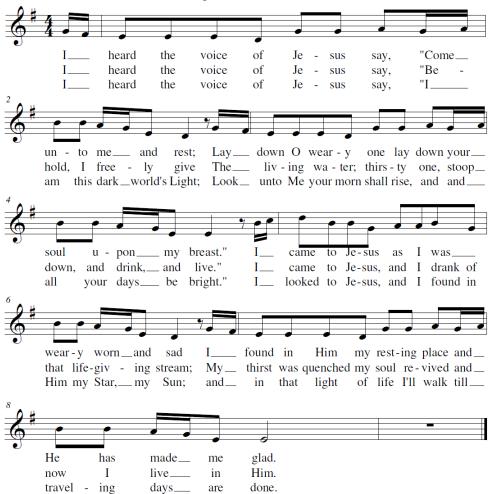
Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as our sympathetic High Priest: *Please hear us as we bring you our requests*. (Silent prayer)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray now in the words you 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.

#### I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say

Text: Horatius Bonar • Music: Kingsfold • Public Domain



#### May Jesus Christ Be Praised

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

Tenor When morn-ing gilds the skies,\_\_ my When sleep her de nies,\_ my peace cries; \_\_\_\_ work A - like at and heart a - wake-ing prayer, When ev-il thoughts mo si - lent spi-rit sighs; lest,\_ May Christ Ι on cast my cares;\_\_\_ I breast: May with this shield my praised! Mav Je-sus Christ be Je-sus Christ be praised! Christ be praised! Christ be praised! May Je-sus Je-sus To God, the Word, on high,\_ the bliss,\_\_\_ the In Heav'n's ter nal е May Je-sus Christ be praised! host of an - gels cry.\_\_\_\_ love-liest is this!. strain Christ praised! My May Je - sus be Je-sus Christ be praised!\_ God, the Sav-ior reigns! Mav

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find; Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: May Jesus Christ be praised! May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this, while life is mine, my love, my song divine: May Jesus Christ be praised! May Jesus Christ be praised! My God, the Savior, reigns! May Jesus Christ be praised!

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • Revelation 3:1-6

"And to the messenger of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

"1 know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup> Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. <sup>4</sup> Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. <sup>6</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'"

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God!* 

# SERMON • "I Will Confess His Name" (Rev. Eric Costa)



# **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<sup>+</sup> 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].)

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

<sup>+</sup> Or, "universal."

#### At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Text: Robert Campbell • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed: paschal victim, paschal bread. With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie; Death is conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light. Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise; Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit ever be.

#### Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me

Text: Psalm 139 and the Gloria Patri Music: *Sarum Plainsong*, c. 14th century, arr. Chip Ueltschey



#### **BENEDICTION** • Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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.)

**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 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. <u>Please bring dry beans to</u> <u>donate – let's try to collect 100 items in total</u>!

**Men's Retreat** • Fri. - Sun., Mar. 6-8, in Lincoln City. There is space for 12. The cost is \$90 per person—make checks payable to Ascension, with "Men's Retreat" in the memo line. 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: Wolford 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: Elliott

Next week: Childers

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