# ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JULY 5, 2020



# CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 33:1-5

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

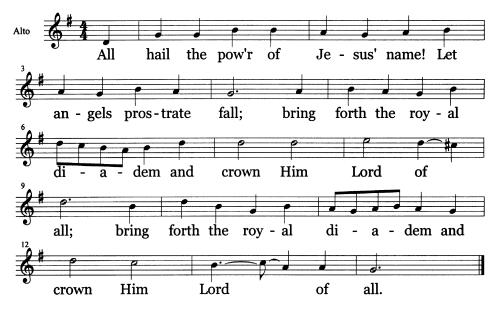
Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

# All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

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Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall, go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all. Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all. To him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.

O that, with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall, join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. Join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

# PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

# CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen. (Silent confession)

# ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

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.

#### GOSPEL READING • Mark 1:14-17

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

<sup>16</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

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...

Father, we pray for your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,

That we all may be one.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Grant that every member of the church may joyfully and humbly serve you,

That your Name would be honored by all people.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who lead and guide your church,

That they may be faithful and diligent servants of you.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world,

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake,

That we may know the joy of living for you.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Have compassion on those who suffer from grief or trouble,

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to 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.

#### **NEW TESTAMENT READING • Revelation 14**

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. <sup>2</sup> And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, <sup>3</sup> and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup> It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup> and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

- <sup>6</sup> Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. <sup>7</sup> And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."
- <sup>8</sup> Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."
- <sup>9</sup> And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, <sup>10</sup> he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."
- <sup>12</sup> Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.
- <sup>13</sup> And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"
- <sup>14</sup> Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. <sup>15</sup> And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe." <sup>16</sup> So he who sat on the cloud swung his sickle across the earth, and the earth was reaped.
- <sup>17</sup> Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. <sup>18</sup> And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." <sup>19</sup> So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup> And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

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

**SERMON** • "The Gospel of the Harvest" (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

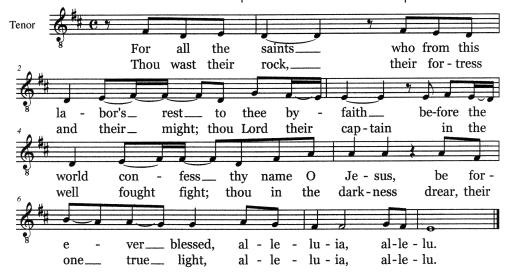
(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God's grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after 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>lt;sup>†</sup> Or, "universal."

# For All The Saints

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O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold, fight as the saints who nobly fought of old, and win with them the victor's crown of gold.

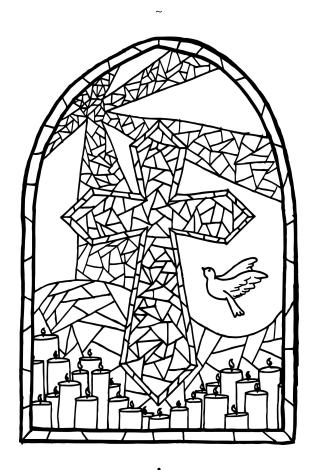
Alleluia, Alelu...

The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest,
Alleluia, Alelu...

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Aleluia, Aleluia,
Aleluia.

# BENEDICTION • 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.



## **PRAY** FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

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