



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • NOVEMBER 22, 2020



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 98:1-4

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Thine Is The Glory

Text: Edmond Budry • Music: George Frederick Handel • Public Domain

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ri - sen, con quering Son; end - less is the
2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ri - sen from the tomb; lo - ving - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is nought with -

vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fol - ded grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth:
through thy death - less love: bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bo - dy lay.
death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ri - sen, con quering Son;
to thy home a - bove.

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Colossians 1:2

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in thought and word and deed, in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through our ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

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 • John 4:4–30

Jesus had to pass through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"
²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,
²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?"
³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to him.

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...

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

God Is The Strength Of My Heart

Text: Psalm 73 (1912 Psalter) • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8
God-is good to His peo - ple, His mer-cy to me,
5
8
is al-ways un - fail - ing, though I could not see.
9
8
And when my faith fal - tered, I en-vied the proud.
13
8
In doubt and dis - qui - et my spir - it was bowed.
17
8
Trust-in the Lord God, He is un-fail - ing,
21
8
He is the strength of my heart ev - er more!
the good and the pure.

In doubt and temptation, I rest Lord in you;
my hand is in your hand, whatever I do.
You always are with me; you guide with your word,
and soon into glory will take me, O Lord.

(Chorus)

Whom have I, O Savior, in heaven but you?
On earth for none other I long but for you.
My flesh and my heart may be weakened and sore,
but God is the strength of my heart evermore.

(Chorus)

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Galatians 5:22-23

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness,
23 gentleness, self-control.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Kindness” (Rev. Eric Costa)



“Chrestotes = kindness, which is an ability to serve others practically in a way which makes me vulnerable, which comes from having a deep inner security. Its opposite is envy, which leaves me unable to rejoice in another’s joy. And its fake alternative is manipulative good deeds, doing good for others so I can congratulate myself and feel I am ‘good enough’ for others or for God.” (Timothy Keller)

“Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?” (Romans 2:4)

“Love is kind.” (1 Corinthians 13:4)



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • Colossians 1:15-20

Who is Jesus Christ?

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. Amen.

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].)

From The Depth Of Woe (Psalm 130)

Text: Martin Luther (Based on Psalm 130) • Music: ©1997 Christopher Miner

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: "From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the voice of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord turn a gra - cious ear to me and hear my sup - pli - ca - tion. If Thou in - i - qui - ties dost mark, our se - cret sins and mis - deeds dark, O who shall stand be - fore Thee? O who shall stand be - fore Thee?"

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the
voice of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord
turn a gra - cious ear to me and hear
my sup - pli - ca - tion. If Thou in - i - qui - ties dost
mark, our se - cret sins and mis - deeds dark, O who
shall stand be - fore Thee?
O who shall stand be - fore Thee?

To wash away the crimson stain grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! are all in vain, in much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,
And live alone by mercy.

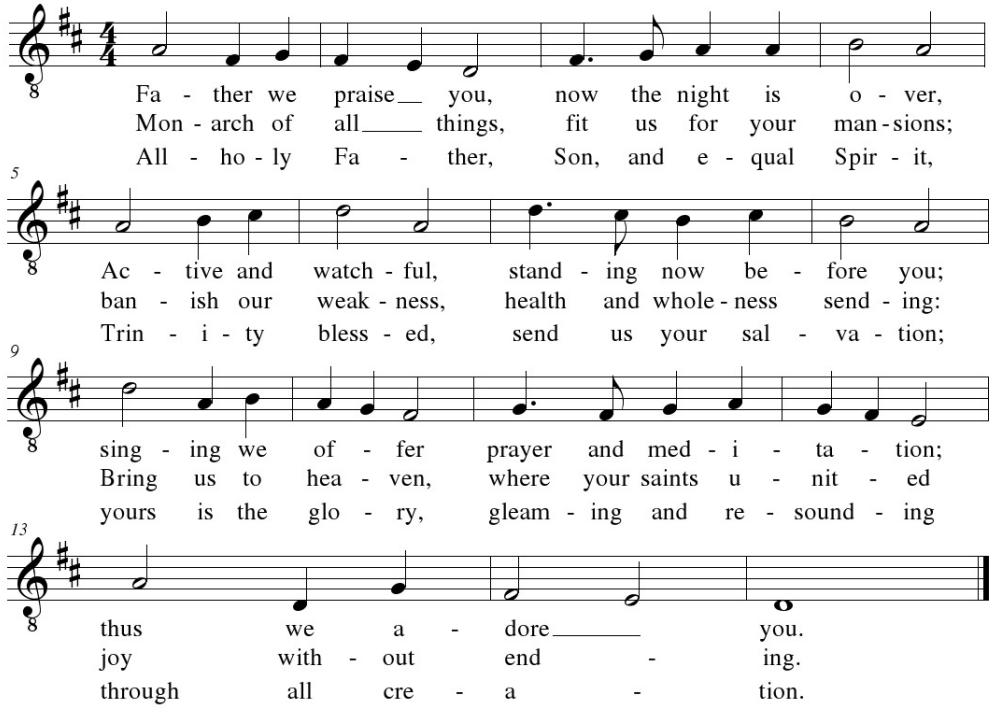
Therefore my trust is in the Lord and not in my own merit;
On him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit:
His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support:
I wait for it with patience.

And though I wait the whole night through and till the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in his might, it doubteth not nor feareth:
Do thus, O you of Israel's seed, you of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait till God appeareth.

Though great our sins and sore our woes, his grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth.
Our shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow.

Father, We Praise You

Text: Gregory I (540-604) • Music: *Christe Sanctorum*, French Church Melody (1681) • Public Domain



8 Fa - ther we praise you, now the night is o - ver,
Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions;
All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it,

5 Ac - tive and watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you;
ban - ish our weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing:
Trin - i - ty bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion;

9 sing - ing we of - fer prayer and med - i - ta - tion;
Bring us to hea - ven, where your saints u - nit - ed
yours is the glo - ry, gleam - ing and re - sound - ing

13 thus we a - dore you.
joy with - out end - ing.
through all cre - a - tion.

BENEDICTION • Jude 1-2

To those who are called,
beloved in God the Father
and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

~

FOR THOSE JOINING US IN PERSON...

Greetings! In deference to current state mandates, we are limiting our services to 50 participants each. Please sign up early if you plan to attend a service. (If you need access to the online signup sheet, contact Eric: rev.eric.costa@gmail.com) If your name is not on the list by the time of the service on Sunday, and the service is already full, or if you are experiencing symptoms of illness, we ask that you would instead join us on Zoom.

Please wear a mask and observe “social distancing” (6ft) between households.

During Communion, parents, please distribute the bread and cup to participating children.

Thank you for your help making others feel comfortable joining us for Worship!

FOR THOSE JOINING US ON ZOOM...

Please remain “muted” throughout the service, but feel free to “unmute” afterwards and catch up with each other. (You can find each Sunday’s liturgy posted online at ascensionpc.org/worship.)

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PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpnetwork.com)

Rev. Drew Burdette, Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org) at Oregon State

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

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-----> (Drop this contact card in the offering, or hand it to the Pastor.)

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.