



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 3, 2021



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 107:1-2

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble.

Rejoice, The Lord Is King

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: John Darwall • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Re - joi - ce the Lord is King: your Lord and King a -
Je - sus the sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and
His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and
He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub -
4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall
8 dore! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing and tri - umph ev - er -
love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a -
heav'n; the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus
mit, and bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his
8 come, and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal
more. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I
bove. _____
giv'n. _____
feet. _____
13 home. _____
8 say re - - - - - joi - ce!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Hebrews 7:23-25

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he lives always to make intercession for them.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Hebrews 7:26-27

For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

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 • Isaiah 49:1-7

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...

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.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

12th Century Latin Hymn • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel." The score ends with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

O come, O come, Em - man - - u - el, and
ran - som cap - tive Is - - - ra - el, that
mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un - til the Son of
God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
man - - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra -
el.

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
(Chorus)

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
(Chorus)

Within A Crib My Savior Lay

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

With-in a crib my Sav-ior lay, a woo-ven man-ger
filled with hay, come down for love on Christ-mas day:
All glo - ry be to Je - sus! Up-on a cross my
Sav-ior died, to ran-som sin-ners, cru-ci-fied, His lov-ing arms still
o-pen wide: All glo - ry be to Je - sus! And this is
love! And this is grace! He came to earth our souls to
save! All glo - ry be to Je - sus!

A victor's crown my Savior won,
his work of love and mercy done,
the Father's high ascended Son:
all glory be to Jesus!

And soon to glory we will rise,
because of our Lord's sacrifice,
new life through him, the crucified:
All glory be to Jesus!

And this is love! And this is grace!
He came to earth our souls to save!
And this is love! And this is grace!
That Christ, our God, did come to save!
All glory be to Jesus.
All glory be to Jesus.

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 2:1–12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

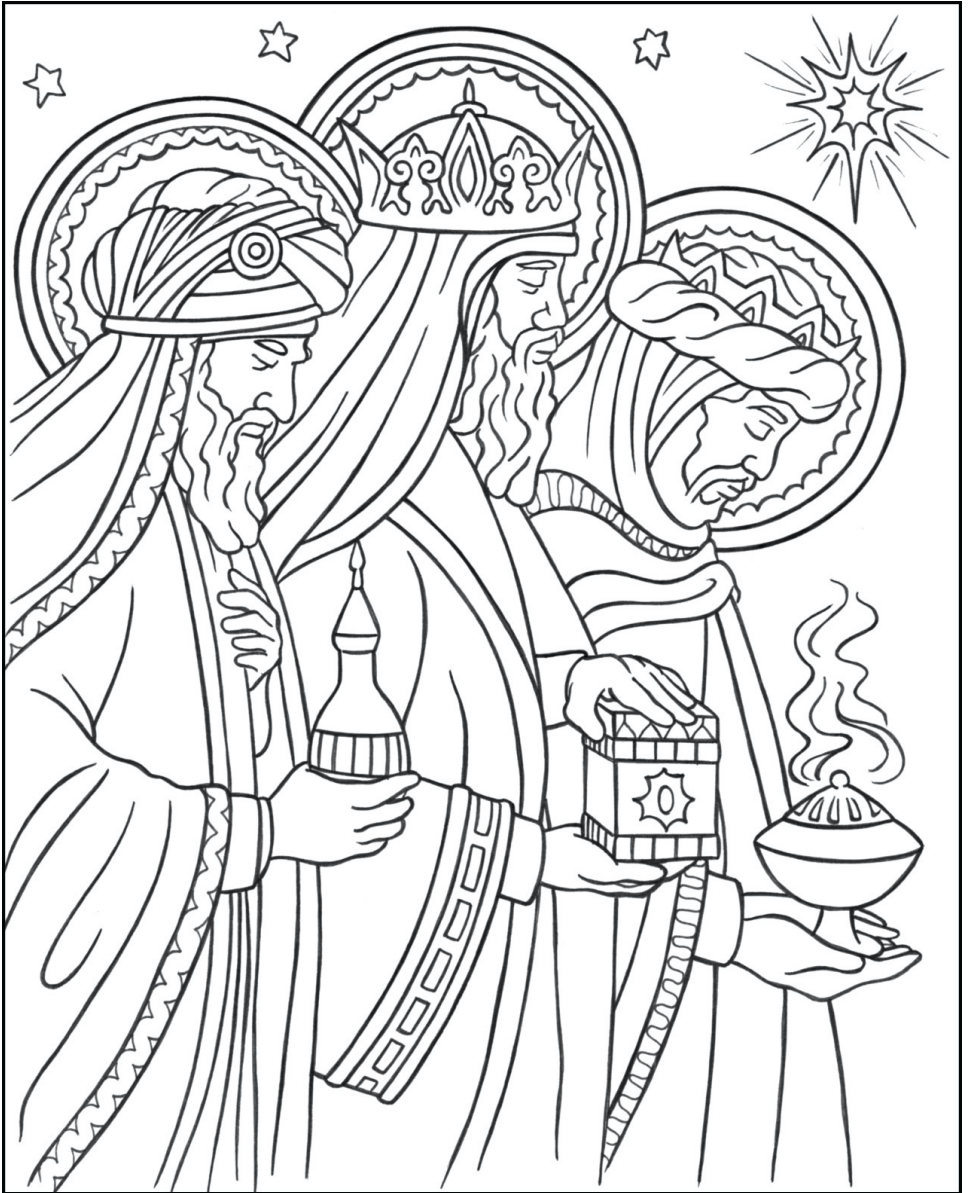
⁶ “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “The Light of the Gentiles” (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.

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."

We Three Kings

Text & Music: John Henry Hopkins • Public Domain



We three kings of O - ri - ent are:
Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain:
Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I:
Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume:
Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise:



Bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far;
Gold I bring to crown Him a - gain,
In - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh;
Breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom -
King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



Field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er
Prayer and prais - ing, all men rais - ing,
Sor - r'wing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,
Al - le - lu ia, Al - le - lu ia!



Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
O - ver us all to reign.
Wor - ship Him, God on high.
Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Earth to heav'n re - plies.



O star of won - der, star of night,



Star with roy - al beau - ty bright, West - ward lead - ing,



still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

Hosanna In The Highest

Text: The Book of Common Prayer • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Public Domain

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
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
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!
_ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! in the high - est!_

To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
a child born meek and lowly, the infant King of Glory!

To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! in the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! in the highest!

BENEDICTION • Matthew 13:16-17

Blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

~

FOR THOSE JOINING US IN PERSON...

Greetings! In accordance with current state mandates, we are limiting our services to 75 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.)

•

PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.com)

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

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

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.

ascensionpc.org

----->✂
(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.