



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • FEBRUARY 7, 2021



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 134:1-2

Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the LORD!

In Thee Is Gladness

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549-1631 • Music: Giovanni Gastoldi, 1556-1622

Public Domain

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'In Thee Is Gladness'. It consists of seven staves of music in a single system, all written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score begins with a 3-measure rest on the first staff. The lyrics are: 'In thee is glad-ness A-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, If he is ours, We fear no pow-ers, Not of sun-shine of my heart. By thee are giv-en The gifts of earth or sin or death. He sees and bless-es In worst dis-heav-en, Thou the true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou tress-es; He can changes them with a breath. Where-fore the wak-est; our bonds thou break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly Has built se-sto-ry Tell of his glo-ry With heart and voic-es; All heav'n re-cure-ly And stands for-ev-er Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are joyces In him for-ev-er; Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for pin-ning To see thy shin-ing, Dy-ing or liv-ing, To thee are glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, Love him and praise him And still shall cleav-ing; Naught us can sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! raise him Glad hymns fo-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!' The score ends with a double bar line on the seventh staff.

3
6
9
12
15
18

In thee is glad-ness A-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus,
If he is ours, We fear no pow-ers, Not of
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raise him Glad hymns fo-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to you and ask that you forgive us and cover us in Christ. Let us hear your voice telling us that his blood is our peace, his death our freedom, his smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that your service is perfect freedom. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 2:2

He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Philippians 4:11-13, 19-20

I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me... And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 23:32-33, 39–43

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Jesus.
33 And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left...

39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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...

Jesus, remember us when you come in your kingdom,

Have mercy upon us and hear our prayers.

For all who carry out your ministries within your church,

We ask for grace and wisdom.

For those who don't yet believe the gospel,

We ask for your faithful love.

For governors and rulers in every land,

We ask for your guidance.

For people who suffer and grieve,

We ask for your healing peace.

Holy God, your Son, Jesus Christ has spoken to us the word of reconciliation. We come to you now in the words he taught us, saying:

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.

In Christ Alone

Text & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend • ©2001 Thankyou Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'In Christ Alone'. It consists of ten staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, ful - ness of There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the light, my strength, my song; This Cor - ner - God in help - less babe! This gift of world by dark - ness slain; Then burst - ing stone, this so - lid ground. firm through the love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the forth in glor - ious day up from the fier - cest drought and storm. What heights of ones he came to save: 'Till on that grave He rose a - gain! And as He love, what depths of peace when fears are cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of stands in vic - to - ry sin's curse has stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in God was sa - tis - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was lost its grip on me, for I am His and He is all, here in the love of Christ I stand. laid; here in the death of Christ I live. mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.

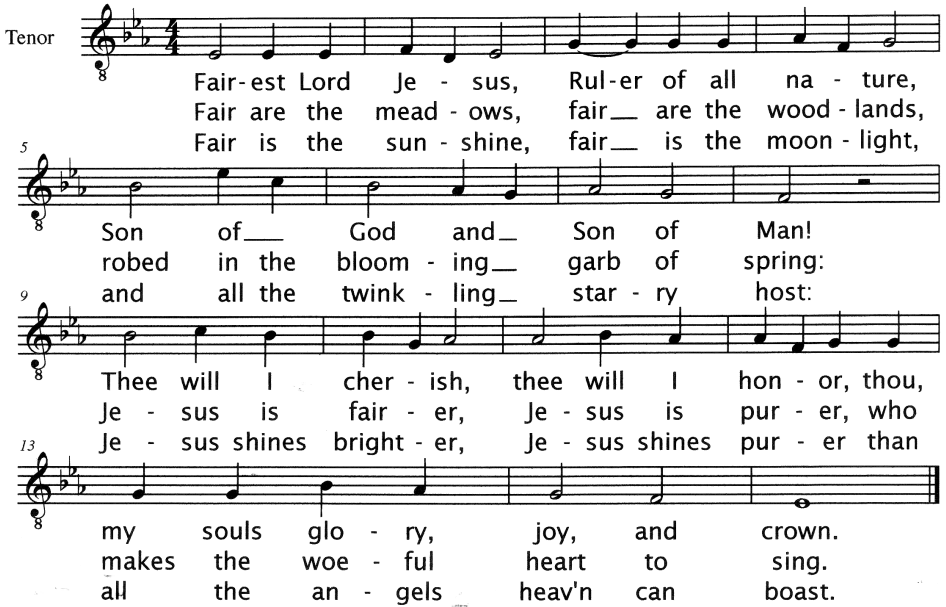
No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;
'till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Fairest Lord Jesus

Text: *Münster Gesangbuch* (Anonymous German Hymn, 1677)

Music: Silesian Folk Song (1842) • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Fair-est Lord Je - sus, Rul-er of all na - ture,
Fair are the mead - ows, fair__ are the wood - lands,
Fair is the sun - shine, fair__ is the moon - light,
5 Son of__ God and__ Son of Man!
robed in the bloom - ing__ garb of spring:
9 and all the twink - ling__ star - ry host:
8 Thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or, thou,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, who
13 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than
8 my souls glo - ry, joy, and crown.
makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
all the an - gels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 2:12-17*

So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. ¹³ Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. ¹⁴ The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. ¹⁵ Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is vapor. ¹⁶ For of the wise as of the fool there is no eternal remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! ¹⁷ So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was evil to me, for all is vapor and herding wind.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "He Remembers Us" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"Brief and powerless is man's life; on him and all his race the slow, sure doom falls pitiless and dark." (Bertrand Russell)

"The living is a species of the dead; and not a very attractive one." (Friedrich Nietzsche)

"Life has no meaning the moment you lose the illusion of being eternal." (Jean-Paul Sartre)

"I hate life, and yet I am afraid to die." (Voltaire)

"I don't want to achieve immortality through my work. I want to achieve it by not dying." (Woody Allen)

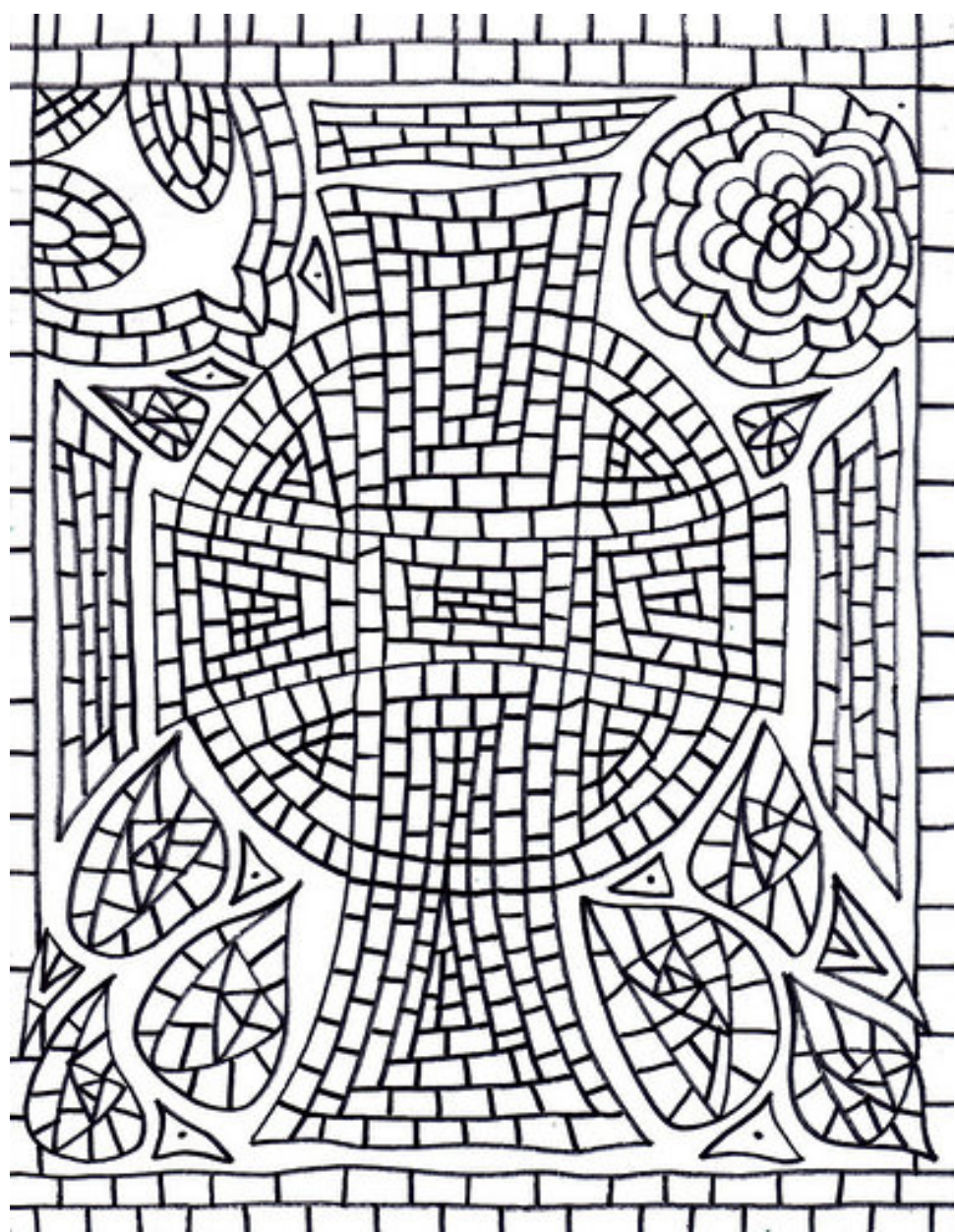
"If one fate comes to all, and that fate is extinction, it robs every man of his dignity and every project of its point." (Derek Kidner)

"Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people;
help me when you save them,
that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,
that I may glory with your inheritance." (Psalm 106:4–5)

"The righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever." (Psalm 112:6)

"It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever." (Psalm 136:23)

* With some differences in translation from the ESV.





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.

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].)

At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing

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

Tenor



At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our vic - to - rious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
flow - ing from His pierc - ed side;
Praise we Him whose love di - vine
gives His sa - cred blood for wine,
gives His bod - y for the feast,
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.

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.

Jesus Lives And So Shall I

Text: Christian F. Gellert • Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8
Je-sus lives, and so shall I, death, thy sting is
4
Je-sus lives, and reigns su-preme; and, His king-dom
8
gone for-ev-er. He who deigned for me to die,
7
still re-main-ing. I shall al-so be with Him,
8
lives, the bands of death to sev-er. He shall raise me
10
ev-er liv-ing ev-er reign-ing. God has prom-ised
8
from the dust: Je-sus is my hope and trust!— He lives! He
15
be it must, Je-sus is my hope and trust!—
8
21
lives! Je-sus lives!— He lives! He lives! and so shall
8
!!

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict'ry o'er my passions giving,
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living.
Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus)

Jesus lives, I know full well, naught from him my heart can sever,
life nor death, nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, henceforth forever.
None of all his saints is lost: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus)

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus x2)

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.

~

FOR THOSE JOINING US IN PERSON...

Greetings! In accordance with current state mandates, we are asking people to wear masks and observe “social distancing” (6ft) between households during Worship.

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 (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)

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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.