



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 28, 2021
PALM SUNDAY


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 2:3

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.

All Glory, Laud And Honor

Text: Theodulph of Orleans (ca. 820) • Music: Melchior Teschner • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "All glo - ry, laud and hon - or to thee Re - deem - er King, to whom the lips of child - ren made sweet ho - san - nas ring! Thou art the King of Is - rael thou Da - vid's roy - al Son, who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One!"

All glo - ry, laud and hon - or to
thee Re - deem - er King, to whom the lips of
child - ren made sweet ho - san - nas ring! Thou
art the King of Is - rael thou Da - vid's roy - al
Son, who in the Lord's name com - est, the
King and bless - ed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present.
To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.
All glory, laud and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 34:18

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.

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 • Psalm 34:22

The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Psalm 96:8

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

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 19:28-44

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 came into the world to reign in justice as our King:

Cause our President and Congress to love justice and mercy. Help our Mayor and City Council to increase the peace of the city.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to destroy the works of the devil:

Restrain the wickedness in our city by your Law. Destroy the wickedness in our own hearts by your Spirit. Protect us from the temptations, deceit and accusations of the devil.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to bring us peace with God:

Bring peace between nations in your world; help Ascension to live in your peace together; come again soon to fully establish your peace on earth.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to seek and save that which was lost:

Show mercy to our friends who do not yet know you; deepen our faith in the Gospel of grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to destroy death and to bring life and immortality to light through the gospel:

Comfort those who are suffering in grief, in poverty, in sickness, in injustice.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to sympathize with our weaknesses:

Please hear us as we bring you our specific 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.

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: John Hatton • Public Domain

Tenor



Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the
sun does its suc - ces - sive jour - neys
run, His king - dom stretch from
shore to shore, till moons shall wax and
wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring the highest honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

You Are Before Me, Lord

Text: Psalm 139, Ian Pitt-Watson • Music: Trad. Scottish Melody • Public Domain



1.You are be - fore me, Lord, You are be - hind,
2.Then from Your Spir - it where, Lord, shall I go;
3.If I should take my flight in - to the dawn,
4.If I should say, "Let dark - ness cov - er me,
5.Search me, O God, search me and know my heart;



And o - ver me You have spread out Your hand;
And from Your pres - ence where, Lord, shall I fly?
If I should dwell on o - cean's far - thest shore,
And I shall hide with - in the veil of night,"
Try me, O God, my mind and spir - it try;



Such knowl - edge is too won - der - ful for me,
If I as - cend to heav - en You are there,
Your might - y hand will rest up - on me still,
Sure - ly the dark - ness is not dark to You:
Keep me from an - y path that gives You pain,



Too high to grasp, too great to un - der - stand.
And still are with me if in hell I lie.
And Your right hand will guard me ev - er - more.
The night is as the day, the dark - ness light.
And lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 4:13 – 5:7*

Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. ¹⁴ For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. ¹⁵ I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place. ¹⁶ There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vapor and herding wind.

^{5:1} Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. ² Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. ³ For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.

⁴ When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. ⁵ It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. ⁶ Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? ⁷ For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vapor; but God is the one you must fear.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “The Humility of Listening” (Rev. Eric Costa)

“Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,
as in obeying the voice of the LORD?
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to listen than the fat of rams.” (1 Samuel 15:22)

“My thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)

“Whoever restrains his words has knowledge,
and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.
Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise;
when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.” (Proverbs 17:27-28)

“Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak...” (James 1:19)

“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you.” (1 Peter 5:5-6)

“We go to church in order to learn how to slow our tongues and quiet our hearts... Instead of asserting ourselves, and filling the space with what we propose it needs, we encounter a space that is already purposed by a being who has already asserted himself. Our task is to receive and surrender to the will of another.” (Zack Eswine)

* With some differences in translation from the ESV.





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.

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].)

* 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.”

Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

Text: Charles Spurgeon

Music: Adapted from a Gregorian Chant by Lowell Mason (*Hamburg*)

Public Domain



A - midst us our Be - love - ed ___ stands,
What food lux - u - rious ___ loads the ___ board,
If now with eyes de - filed and ___ dim,
O glor - ious Bride - groom ___ of our ___ hearts,



and bids us view His ___ pierc - ed ___ hands;
when at His ta - ble ___ sits the ___ Lord!
we see the signs, but ___ see not ___ Him;
your pre - sent smile a ___ heav'n im - parts!



points to the wound - ed ___ feet and ___ side,
The wine how rich, the ___ bread how ___ sweet,
O may His love the ___ scales dis - place,
O lift the veil, if ___ veil there ___ be,



blest em - blems of the Cru - ci ___ fied.
when Je - sus deigns the guests to ___ meet!
and bid us see Him face to ___ face!
let ev - ery saint your glor - y ___ see!

Thine Be The Glory

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

Tenor



8
Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring
Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the
4
No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of
8
Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast
tomb; lov - ing ly He greets us, scat - ters fear and
8
life; life is naught with - out thee: aid us in our
8
won; an - gels in bright rai - ment
gloom; let the church with glad - ness,
11
strife; make us more than con - qu'ors,
8
rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes,
hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth,
15
thro' thy death - less love: bring us safe thro' Jor - dan
8
where thy bod - y lay. Thine be the glo - ry
death hath lost its sting.
19
to thy home a - bove.
8
ris - en con - qu'ring Son; end - less is the
22
8
vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

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! We hope that as many people as possible will feel comfortable joining us for Worship. So we're asking everyone to wear a mask and observe "social distancing" (6ft) between households during Worship. During Communion, parents, please distribute the bread and cup to participating children.

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.)

Coffee Hospitality • We'd like to have someone pour and serve coffee after Worship each Sunday. If you'd like to join the rotation to help with this, contact Holly Elliott (nerdymomma@gmail.com).

Women's Study • Connect on Zoom at 7pm on Mondays to study 1 John together. Contact Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Good Friday Service • 7pm Fri., Apr. 2.

Easter Picnic • After Worship on Sun., Apr. 4. Depending on the weather, join us outside at Tim & Sara Serys' home (17290 SW Seiffert Road, Scholls).

Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., May 1 at Rob Stevenson's home (5037 NE Stable Court, Hillsboro).

Summer Campout • Fri., Aug. 20 - Sun., Aug. 22 at Beverly Beach State Park. Camp sites are limited! Register with Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com).

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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.