



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • APRIL 18, 2021



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 42:10a**

Sing to the LORD a new song,  
his praise from the end of the earth.

# All Praise To God Who Reigns Above

Text: Johann Schultz • Music: *Mit Freuden Zart*, arr. Ascension Presbyterian Church

8 All — praise to God who reigns a - bove the —  
What — God's al - might - y pow'r hath made his —  
I — cried to him in time of need: Lord —  
The — Lord for - sak - eth not his flock, his —  
Ye — who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, to —  
3 Then — come be - fore His pre - sence now and —

8 God of all cre - a - tion the — God of won - ders  
grac - ious mer - cy — keep - eth. By — morn - ing glow or  
God, O hear my — call - ing! For — death he gave me  
chos - en gen - er - er — a - tion; He — is their re - fuge  
God give praise and glo - ry! Ye — who the Fath - er's  
6 ba - nish fear and sad - ness; To — your Re - deem - er

8 powr and love, the — God of our sal - va - tion! With  
eve - ning shade his — watch - ful eye ne'er — sleep - eth; With -  
life in - deed and — kept my feet from — fall - ing. For  
and their rock, their — peace and their sal - va - tion. As  
pow'r pro - claim, to — God give praise and glo - ry! All  
9 pay your vow and — sing with joy and — glad - ness: Though

8 heal - ing balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - ery  
in the king - dom of his might, Lo! all is just and  
this my thanks shall end - less be; O thank him, thank our  
with a moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his own, his  
i - dols un - der foot be trod, the Lord is God! The  
12 great dis - tress my soul be - fell, the Lord, my God, did

8 sor - row stills. To God all praise and glo - ry!  
all is right, To God all praise and glo - ry!  
God with me, To God all praise and glo - ry!  
cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!  
Lord is God! To God all praise and glo - ry!  
all things well, To God all praise and glo - ry!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 145:8-9**

The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The LORD is good to all,  
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*O Father, we are gathered before you, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, we have not loved you with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love you with a holy love. Amen.*

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Psalm 145:18-20**

The LORD is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.  
He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;  
he also hears their cry and saves them.  
The LORD preserves all who love him,  
but all the wicked he will destroy.

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Matthew 6:2-4**

*“When you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”*

## **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.*

## NEW TESTAMENT READING • Romans 9:18–23

He has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

<sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” <sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” <sup>21</sup> Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? <sup>22</sup> What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory...?

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 who is from everlasting to everlasting, grant us, amidst the conflicts of this world, the comfort of a perfect trust in you.

From pride and selfishness, greed and anger, spring passions that lead to war among brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as war among nations:

*Save and help us, O Lord.*

For all who are afflicted by war within themselves, by the conflicts of doubt, a rebellious will, and the darkness of despair:

*Save and help us, O Lord.*

For all who suffer in body and circumstance, the sick, the poor, and the prisoner, that they would be touched by your compassion in their time of need:

*Save and help us, O Lord.*

And now as our Savior taught us, we 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.*

# Come, Oh Come, O Quickening Spirit

Text and Music: Heinrich Held (1620-1659), arr. Chip Ueltschey



Come, oh come, O quick - 'ning Spi - rit,  
On - ly that which you de - sire  
Bless - ed Spi - rit, still re - new - ing  
Help us keep the faith for - ev - er;



God be - fore the dawn of time!  
be our ob - ject; with your hand  
all who dwell up - on the earth,  
let not Sa - tan, death, or shame



Fire our hearts with ho - ly ar - dor,  
lead our ev - 'ry thought and ac - tion,  
when the e - vil one as - sails us  
draw us from you or de - prive us



bless - ed Com - for - ter sub - lime!  
let us be at your com - mand.  
help us prove our heav'n - ly birth;  
of the hon - or of your name.



Let your ra - diance fill our night,  
All our sin - ful - ness e - raise  
Arm us with your might - y sword  
When the foe would lure us hence,



turn - ing dark - ness in - to light.  
with the in - crease of your grace.  
in the le - gions of the Lord.  
be, O God, our sure de - fense.

# Come, Holy Ghost

Text: Rhabanus Maurus (A.D. 776-856); chorus by Ray Mills (2005)

Music: Bruce Benedict & Ray Mills • ©2006 Cardiphonia Music, ©2006 Raymond G. Mills

5  
Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest,  
O com - fort - er, to Thee we cry,  
and in our hearts take up Thy rest;  
9 Thou heav'n - ly gift of God most high;  
Come with Thy grace and heav'n-ly aid to fill our  
14 Thou fount of life, and fire of love, and sweet an -  
hearts which Thou hast made, to fill our  
18 noint - ing from a - bove, and sweet a -  
hearts which Thou hast made. Be not a -  
23 noint - ting from a - bove.  
fraid, where you go there I am with you.

O Holy Ghost, through thee alone know we the Father and the Son;  
be this our firm, unchanging creed, that thou dost from them both proceed,  
that thou dost from them both proceed.

*(Chorus x2)*

Praise we the Lord, Father and Son, and Holy Spirit with them one;  
and may the Son on us bestow all gifts that from the Spirit flow,  
all gifts that from the Spirit flow.

*(Chorus x2)*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 6:1-12\*

There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: <sup>2</sup> a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vapor; it is a grievous evil. <sup>3</sup> If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. <sup>4</sup> For it comes in vapor and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. <sup>5</sup> Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. <sup>6</sup> Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?

<sup>7</sup> All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. <sup>8</sup> For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? <sup>9</sup> Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vapor and a striving after wind.

<sup>10</sup> Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he. <sup>11</sup> The more words, the more vapor, and what is the advantage to man? <sup>12</sup> For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vaporous life, which he passes like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun?

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

## SERMON • “Who Knows What Is Good For Man?” (Rev. Eric Costa)

“Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you?  
I lay my hand on my mouth.”

“I have uttered what I did not understand,  
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.” (Job 40:4; 42:3)

“Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,  
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.

Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!

Surely a man goes about as a shadow!

Surely for nothing they are in turmoil;

man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather!

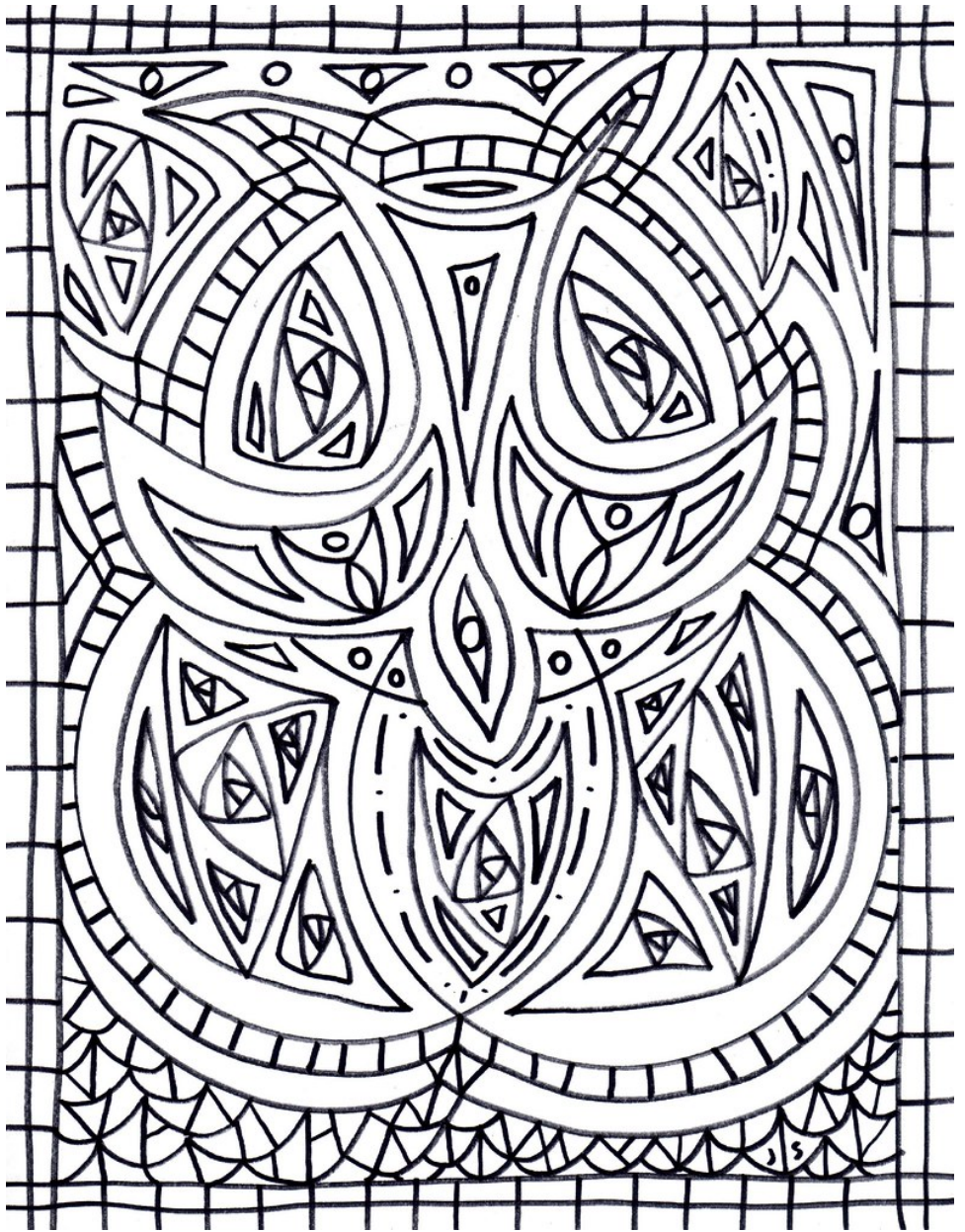
And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

My hope is in you.” (Psalm 39:5–7)

“We do suffer a good deal of disappointment in life. We also have questions that have never been answered to our satisfaction. But understand [Ecclesiastes'] purpose: by talking openly about our disappointment with life, he is trying to awaken our longing for God. (Philip Ryken)

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\* With some differences in translation from the ESV.







THE UPPER ROOM



**CONFESSION OF FAITH • Philippians 2:6-11**

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

*I believe that Jesus Christ, being God, made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born a man. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 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].)

# A Hymn To God The Father

A Poem by John Donne • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

Wilt Thou for - give that sin where I be - gun, which  
5 was my sin, though it were done be - fore? Wilt Thou for -  
10 give that sin through which I run, and do run still, though  
15 still I do de - plore? When Thou hast  
19 done, — Thou hast not done, — for I have more, — I have  
25 more. When Thou hast done, — Thou hast not done,  
30 — for I have more, — I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won  
others to sin, and made my sin their door?  
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun  
a year or two, but wallow'd in a score?

When thou hast done, thou hast not done,  
for I have more, I have more. (2x)

I have a sin of fear that when I've spun  
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;  
but swear by thyself, that at my death thy sun  
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.

And, having done that, thou hast done.  
I fear no more. I fear no more. (2x)

# I Lay My Sins On Jesus

Text: Horatius Bonar (1843) • Music: Bartholomaeus Gesius (1605) • Public Domain



I lay my sins \_\_\_\_\_ on Je - sus, the  
I lay my needs \_\_\_\_\_ on Je - sus; all  
I rest my soul \_\_\_\_\_ on Je - sus, this  
I long to be \_\_\_\_\_ like Je - sus, meek,



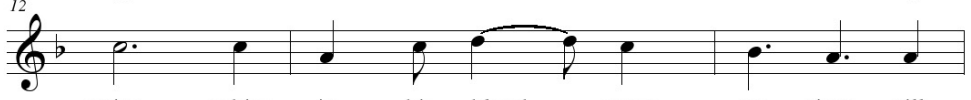
spot - less Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ of God; he bears them all, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ful - ness dwells \_\_\_\_\_ in him; he heals all my \_\_\_\_\_ dis -  
wea - ry soul \_\_\_\_\_ of mine; his right hand me \_\_\_\_\_ em -  
lov - ing, low - ly, mild; I long to be \_\_\_\_\_ like



frees us from the ac - curs - ed load: I  
eas - es, he doth my soul \_\_\_\_\_ re - deem: I  
brac - es, I on his breast \_\_\_\_\_ re - cline. I  
Je - sus, the Fa - ther's ho - ly child: I



bring my guilt \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus to wash \_\_\_\_\_ my crim - son  
lay my griefs \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, my bur - dens and \_\_\_\_\_ my  
love the name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, Im - man \_\_\_\_\_ uel, Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ the  
long to be \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus a - mid \_\_\_\_\_ the heav'n - ly



stains cares; white in his blood \_\_\_\_\_ most pre - cious, till  
Lord; he from them all \_\_\_\_\_ re - leas - es, he  
throng, to sing with saints \_\_\_\_\_ his prais - es, to



not a spot \_\_\_\_\_ re - mains.  
all my sor - rows shares.  
name a - broad \_\_\_\_\_ is poured.  
learn the an - gels' song.

## BENEDICTION • Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to you, brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:jerilee.costa@gmail.com)).

**Informational Meeting** • Sun., Apr. 25 after Worship.

**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. Contact Nicole Hamilton ([neh.hamilton@gmail.com](mailto:neh.hamilton@gmail.com)).

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### PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro ([loveincgreaterhillsboro.org](http://loveincgreaterhillsboro.org))

Northwest Church Planting Network ([nwcpcnetwork.com](http://nwcpcnetwork.com))

Rev. Drew Burdette, Reformed University Fellowship ([ruf.org](http://ruf.org)) at Oregon State

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

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[ascensionpc.org](http://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.