



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MAY 16, 2021  
ASCENSION SUNDAY

  
THE WORD  


**CALL TO WORSHIP • Hosea 6:3**

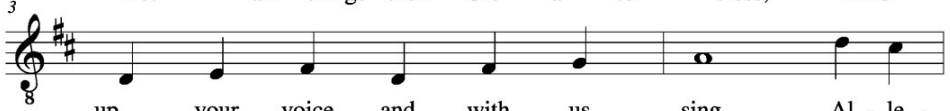
Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD;  
his going out is sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us as the showers,  
as the spring rains that water the earth.

# All Creatures Of Our God And King

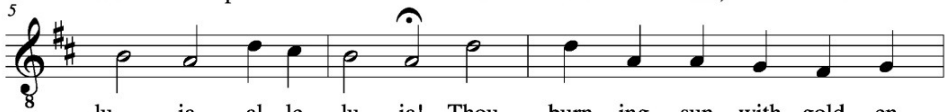
Text: Francis of Assisi • Music: *Giestliche Kirchengesänge* (1623) • Public Domain



All crea - tures of our God and King, lift  
Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye  
Thou flow - ing wat - er pure and clear, make  
And all ye men of ten - der heart, For -  
Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, And



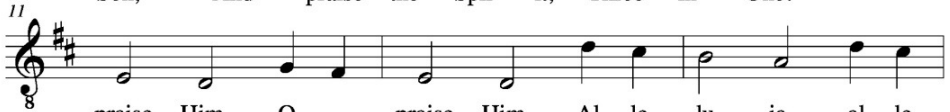
up your voice and with us sing Al - le -  
clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, O  
mu - sic for thy Lord to hear, Al - le -  
giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, O  
wor - ship Him in hum - ble - ness, O



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en  
praise Him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn in praise re -  
lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and  
sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row  
praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fath - er, praise the



beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O  
joice, Ye lights of eve - ning find a voice,  
bright, That giv - est man both warmth and light,  
bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!  
Son, And praise the Spir - it, Three in One!



praise Him, O praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 6:1, 5**

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple... And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ. You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways. Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father; and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.*

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 6:6-7**

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Luke 6:38**

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to 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.*

## **GOSPEL READING • John 15:10-17**

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.*

# 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!

# 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 8:1–9

<sup>1</sup> Who is like the wise?

And who knows the interpretation of a thing\*?

A man's wisdom makes his face shine,  
and the hardness of his face is changed.

<sup>2</sup> I say: Keep the king's command, because of God's oath to him. <sup>3</sup> Be not hasty to go from his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil cause\*, for he does whatever he pleases. <sup>4</sup> For the word\* of the king is supreme, and who may say to him, "What are you doing?" <sup>5</sup> Whoever keeps a command will know no evil thing\*, and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way. <sup>6</sup> For there is a time and a way for everything, although man's trouble lies heavy on him. <sup>7</sup> For he does not know what is to be, for who can tell him how it will be? <sup>8</sup> No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. There is no discharge from war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are given to it. <sup>9</sup> All this I observed while applying my heart to all that is done under the sun, when man had power over man to his hurt.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

## SERMON • "Keep the King's Command" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise." (Proverbs 24:21)

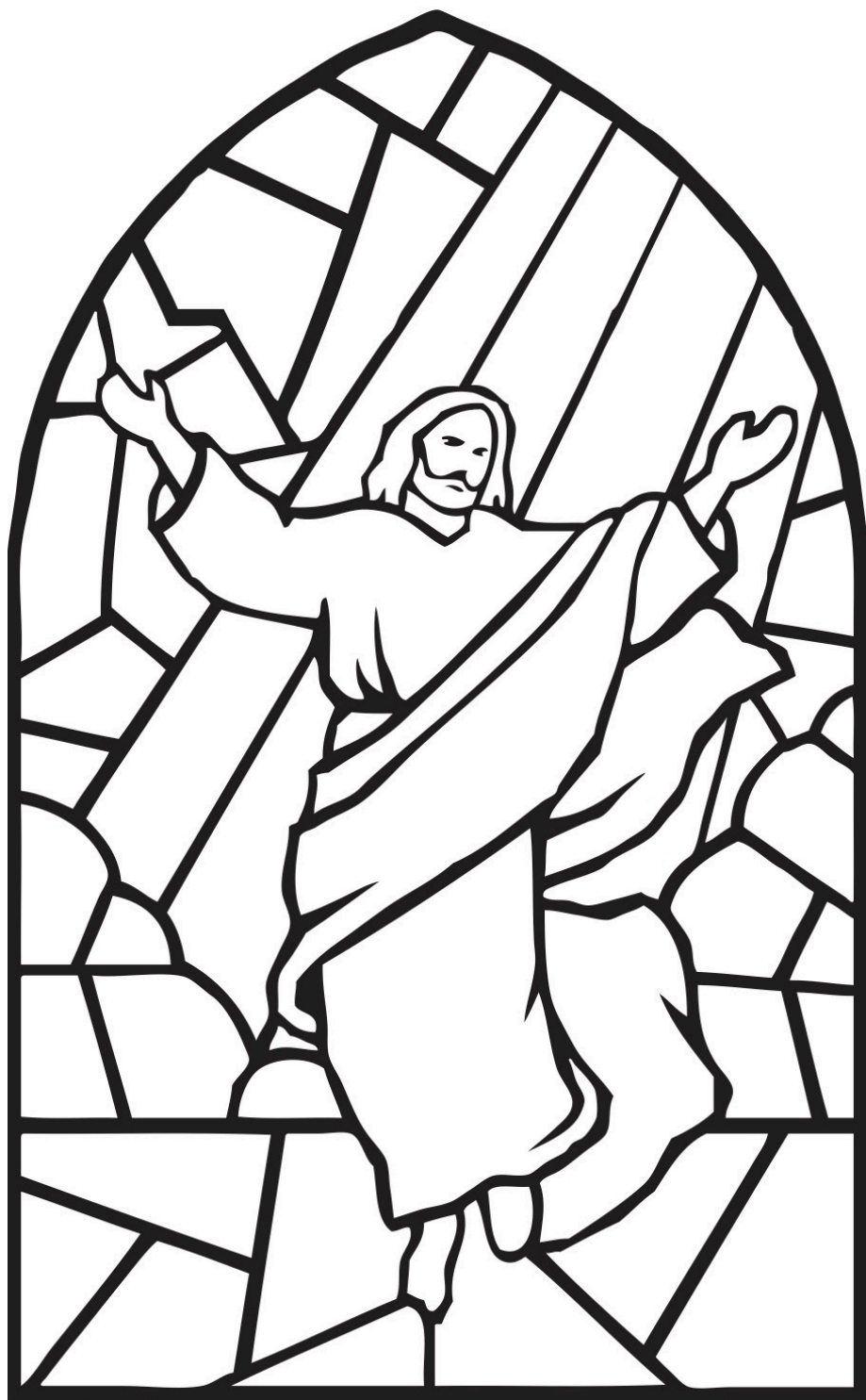
"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:25-28)

"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed." (Romans 13:1-7)

"Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (1 Peter 2:13-17)

---

\* Words marked with an asterisk (\*) translate the Hebrew *dabar*, usually translated "word."







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.*

**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].)*

# Father, Remember Me

Text: Psalm 103 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 The ten - der love a fath - er has for all  
3 The Lord re - mem - bers we are dust, and all  
8 his children dear, Such love the Lord be - stows  
6 our frail - ty knows; Man's days are like the ten -  
8 on them who wor - ship Him in fear. This is my  
9 - der grass, and as the flow'r he grows.  
8 song! Fath - er re - mem - ber me, When You come,  
13 Lord - re - mem - ber me!

Unchanging is the love of God, from age to age the same,  
displayed to all who do his will and reverence in his name.

*(Chorus)*

Those who his gracious cov'nant keep the Lord will ever bless;  
their children's children shall rejoice to see his righteousness.

*(Chorus)*

# Now Thank We All Our God

Text: Martin Rinkart • Music: Felix Mendelssohn • Public Domain

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and lyrics. The lyrics are arranged in two columns per line of music. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. The lyrics are as follows:

Now thank we all our God with  
O may this boun - teous God through  
All praise and thanks to God the  
heart and hands and voic - es, Who  
Fa - our ther life be near us, With  
won - drous things hath done, in whom His world re -  
e - ver joy - ful hearts and ble - sed peace to  
Son, and Him who reigns with them in high - est  
joic - es; Who, from our moth - ers'  
cheer us; And keep us in His  
heav - en, The one e - ter - nal  
arms, hath blessed us on our way With  
grace, and guide us when per - plexed. And  
God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore; For  
count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
free us from all ills in this world and the next  
thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

## BENEDICTION • Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

~

**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 would like more volunteers to help serve refreshments after Worship on Sundays, the goal being a larger rotation where people would only need to volunteer once a quarter. This would be a great opportunity for young people (age 12 and up) to participate in simple service, supervised by Holly! Contact Holly Elliott if you'd like to help ([nerdymomma@gmail.com](mailto:nerdymomma@gmail.com)).

**Women's Study** • Connect on Zoom at 7pm on Mondays to study Paul Miller's book, *A Praying Life*, together. Contact Jerilee Costa ([jerilee.costa@gmail.com](mailto:jerilee.costa@gmail.com)).

**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)).

•

### 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))

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](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.