ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JUNE 6, 2021

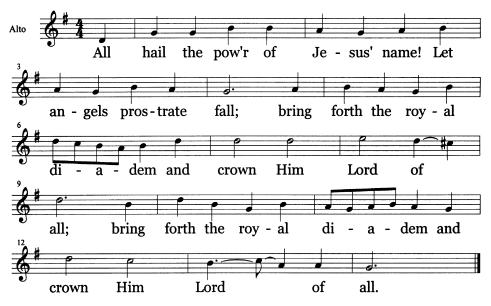


CALL TO WORSHIP • Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

Text: Edward Perronet • Music: Oliver Holden • Public Domain



Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall, go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all. Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all. To him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.

O that, with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall, join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. Join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen! *He is risen indeed!* Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Isaiah 45:22, 24a

"Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength."

CONFESSION OF SIN

Fountain of Living Waters, you give to all mankind life and breath and everything. But we have refused to honor you or give you thanks. We stubbornly pretend that we don't need you, that we can help ourselves. We actively resist your presence and will in our lives. We thoughtlessly ignore you, which may be the worst slight of all. Yet you remain a God of light and life and love, and, in your grace, you have invaded this world to save us from ourselves. Your presence and will, as seen in Jesus, is better than our autonomy. We are sorry for our foolish rebellion. Please forgive us, and fix our eyes on Christ, who came to seek and save the lost, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Isaiah 45:17

Israel is saved by the LORD with everlasting salvation; you shall not be put to shame or confounded to all eternity.

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

OFFERING • Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

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 • 2 Peter 3:2–15a

Remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, ³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. ⁴ They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." ⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. ⁷ But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. ¹⁵ And count the patience of our Lord as salvation...

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...

(Elder prays)

And now as our Savior taught us, we pray:

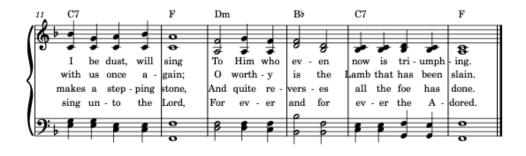
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

I, Even I, Will Sing Unto The Lord

Text: Amy Carmichael • Music: Edward J. Hopkins • © 1960 Dohnavur Fellowship







God Is The Strength Of My Heart

Text: Psalm 73 (1912 Psalter) • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



The wicked all prosper, and firm is their health; they suffer no pangs as they gather their wealth. They never are troubled with sickness or pain, but boast to all others of ill-gotten gain.

(Chorus)

They question God's knowledge and boldly defy the might and the justice of God the Most High. The wicked grow wealthy, have comfort and peace, while I, daily chastened, see troubles increase.

(Chorus)

In doubt and temptation, I rest Lord in you; my hand is in your hand, whatever I do. You always are with me; you guide with your word, and soon into glory will take me, O Lord.

(Chorus)

Whom have I, O Savior, in heaven but you? On earth for none other I long but for you. My flesh and my heart may be weakened and sore, but God is the strength of my heart evermore.

(Chorus)

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 8:10–17*

Then I saw the wicked buried. They used to go in and out of the holy place and were praised in the city where they had done such things. This also is vapor. ¹¹ Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil. ¹² Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him. ¹³ But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God.

¹⁴ There is a vapor that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the wicked, and there are wicked people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the righteous. I said that this also is vapor. ¹⁵ And I commend joy, for man has nothing better under the sun but to eat and drink and be joyful, for this will go with him in his toil through the days of his life that God has given him under the sun.

¹⁶ When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on earth, how neither day nor night do one's eyes see sleep, ¹⁷ then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "It Will Be Well" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For they have no pangs until death... All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning. If I had said, 'I will speak thus,' I would have betrayed the generation of your children. But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end... For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works." (Psalm 73)

"But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." (Romans 3:21-26)

"Oh, the injustice of it all! If God is righteous, then we would expect him to reward the righteous and punish the wicked. Yet often he seems to do exactly the opposite." (Philip Ryken)

"Many that live deserve death. And some that die deserve life. Can you give it to them? Then do not be too eager to deal out death in judgment." (Gandalf, to Frodo, concerning Golem)

^{*} With some differences in translation from the ESV.





CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 60

How are you right with God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. 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].)

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music



O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Text: George Matheson • Music: Christopher Miner • ©1997 Christopher Miner



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 you will feel comfortable being with us this morning (even though church is often an uncomfortable experience!). We leave it up to your personal discretion whether you wear a mask or observe social distancing during 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.)

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of the month (today) we participate together in some compassion and relief ministries to help each other and our neighbors in the community...

- ALMS These gifts go toward a fund the deacons use to meet urgent needs as we are made aware of them. (If you need financial help, please let us know! Contact: deacons@ascensionpc.org.)
- FOOD PANTRY The elementary school in the church's neighborhood, W. L. Henry, is an Oregon Food Bank site that serves about 50 families who rely on help like this. <u>Please bring dry</u> <u>beans to donate—let's try to collect 100 items in total</u>!

Last Day of Sunday School • Today after 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).

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).

PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org) Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpnetwork.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)	 [] 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.

Email / Phone