ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JULY 4, 2021



CALL TO WORSHIP • John 6:35

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

Holy, Holy, Holy

Text: Reginald Heber • Music: John Dykes • Public Domain



PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Jeremiah 2:12-13

"Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."

CONFESSION OF SIN

Blessed Trinity, you dwell in the sheer delight of eternal communion. You are the Lord of joy, and you have made us and blessed us to share your joy in relationship with you. But we have sought our happiness apart from you, in the things you have made, in the works of our own hands, in anything and everything but you. Nevertheless, Lord Jesus, it was your pleasure to welcome us back into your own joy, even though it meant your death to do so. Even though we don't deserve it, please forgive us and restore to us the joy of your salvation. Make your own joy to be our strength. Grant that our greatest delight would be in knowing you and making you known, to the glory of your Blessed Name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Jeremiah 3:22a

"Return, O faithless sons; I will heal your faithlessness."

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

OFFERING • 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

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 • Matthew 16:25-27

"Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done."

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.

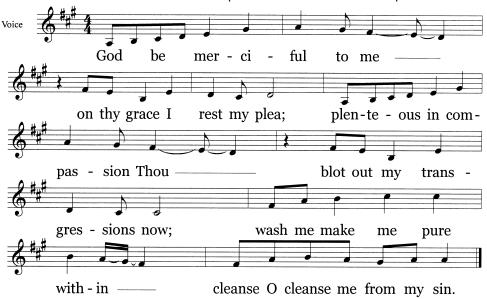
My Shepherd, You Supply My Need (Psalm 23)

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: North American Traditional • Public Domain



God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51)

Text: Richard Redhead • Music: Christopher Miner • © 1998 Christopher Miner



My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress; I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face; I confess thy judgment just; speechless, I thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; thou desirest truth within. Thou alone my Savior art, teach thy wisdom to my heart; make me pure, thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just, let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice; from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true; cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me; thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me, and return O God to thee; Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love; touch my silent lips O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

- Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.
- ² Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what disaster may happen on earth.
- ³ If the clouds are full of rain,
 - and if a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.
- ⁴ He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

⁵ As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.

⁶ In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "Spiritual Economics" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"The wise man will invest everything he has in the life of faith." (Michael Eaton)

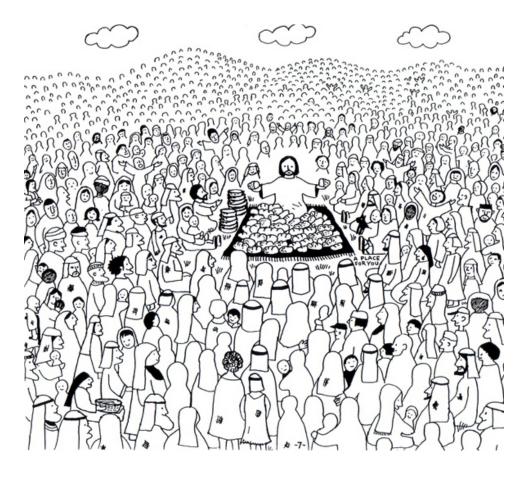
"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." (Jim Elliot)

"If there are risks in everything, it is better to fail in launching out than in hugging one's resources to oneself." (Derek Kidner)

"Do not hold back because of fear, but step out by faith—not faith that your own efforts will succeed, necessarily, but faith that God will take what you offer and use it in some way for his glory." (Philip Ryken)

"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." (Luke 6:38)

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)





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.

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].)

In Sweet Communion

Text: Psalm 73 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Hosanna In The Highest

Text: The Book of Common Prayer • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Used by Permission

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(Repeat final chorus)

BENEDICTION • Psalm 115:14-15

May the LORD give you increase, you and your children! May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!

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), in addition to our regular offering, we collect *alms*, gifts of mercy. 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.)

Summer BBQ • Sun., July 11, after Worship, at the home of Tim and Sara Sery (17290 SW Seiffert Road in Scholls). Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a side, dessert, or drinks to share, as well as lawns chairs or blankets (and swimsuits for the kids).

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).

Summer Campout • Fri., Aug. 20 - Sun., Aug. 22 at Beverly Beach State Park. Contact Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@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