

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JULY 25, 2021

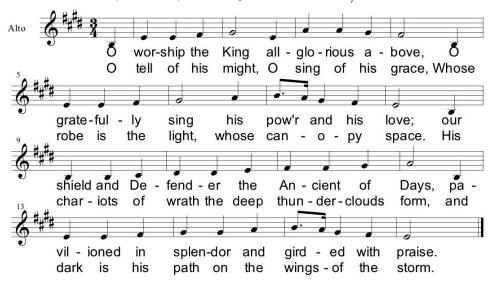


CALL TO WORSHIP • John 7:37-38

Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

O Worship The King

Text: Robert Grant (Psalm 104) • Music: Johann Michael Haydn • Public Domain



The earth with its store of wonders untold, almighty, thy power hath founded of old; established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN . Hosea 6:1

Come, let us return to the LORD, for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in thought and word and deed, in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through our ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Hosea 14:4

"I will heal their apostasy;
I will love them freely,
for my anger has turned from them."

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

OFFERING • Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing 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 • Luke 11:29–32

When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, "This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹ The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

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...

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray, and to offer our petitions to you in His name.

Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of all generations, you formed your church from the despised of the earth and showed them mercy that they might proclaim salvation to all.

Strengthen those you have chosen that they may faithfully endure all trials by which you conform your church to the cross of Christ through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of comfort, you bear the pain of the world and stand with those who sorrow. Look with compassion on those who are troubled, cheer them by your word, and bring them healing as a sign of your grace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

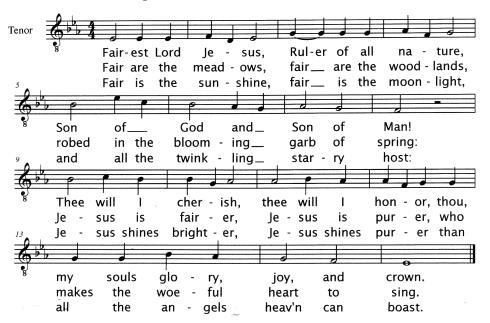
Mighty God, whose word we trust, whose Spirit enables us to pray: accept our requests and further those which will bring about your purpose on earth through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Fairest Lord Jesus

Text: Münster Gesangbuch (Anonymous German Hymn, 1677)

Music: Silesian Folk Song (1842) • Public Domain



Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need (Psalm 23)

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



OLD TESTAMENT READING • Jonah 1

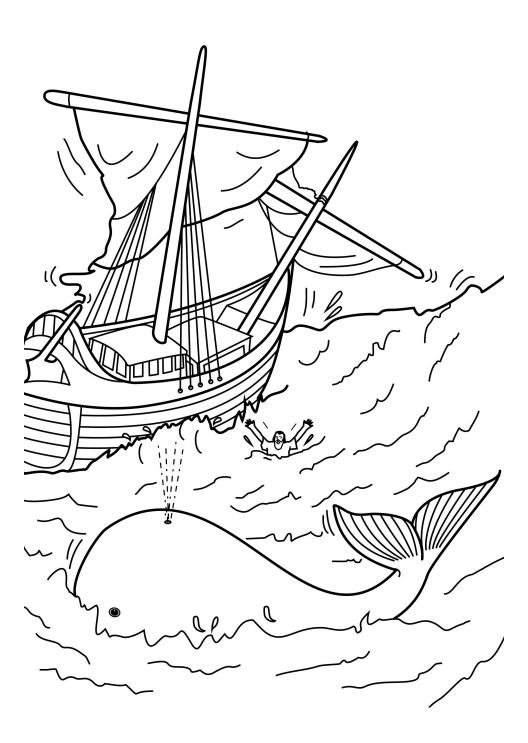
Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me." ³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

- ⁴ But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. ⁶ So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."
- ⁷ And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰ Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.
- ¹¹ Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. ¹² He said to them, "Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you." ¹³ Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴ Therefore they called out to the LORD, "O LORD, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." ¹⁵ So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶ Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

¹⁷ And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON • "The Sign of Jonah" (Rev. Eric Costa)





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



Father, We Praise You

through

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Text: Gregory I (540-604) • Music: Christe Sanctorum, French Church Melody (1681) • Public Domain



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BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

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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.)

Music & Choir Practice • Thu., Aug. 5 at the home of Tim and Shirley Sauerwein (5450 NW Innisbrook Place, Portland, 97229). Music practice for Sunday Worship will begin at 7pm, choir practice will start afterward, around 7:30. Anyone interested is welcome to join us! Come and practice an easy choral arrangement, to be sung for the offertory on Sun., Aug. 8. Contact Tim (tim@xyzzy2.com).

Setup Help • We would like more volunteers to help with setup and takedown for Worship on Sundays. Please contact Bill Duncan if you can help (bduncan47@gmail.com).

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

Women's Retreat • Fri. - Sun., Oct. 22-24, in Lincoln City. The cost will be \$90 per person. For more details, and to register, contact Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@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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ascensionpc.org (Drop this contact card in the offering, or hand it to the Pastor.)	