



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



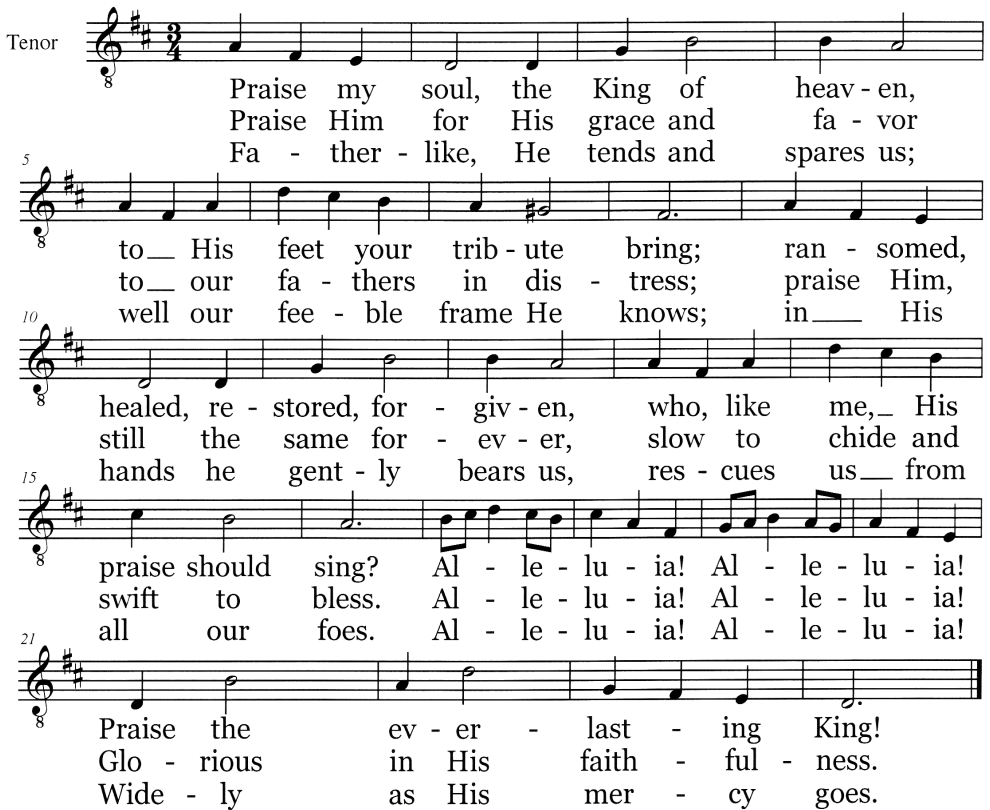
**CALL TO WORSHIP • Hebrews 12:22–23, 28-29**

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all... Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

# Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven

Text: Henry F. Lyte • Music: Mark Andrews • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Praise my soul, the King of heav-en,  
Praise Him for His grace and fa-vor  
Fa-ther-like, He tends and spares us;  
5 to His feet your trib-ute bring; ran-somed,  
to our fa-thers in dis-tress; praise Him,  
10 well our fee-ble frame He knows; in His  
8 healed, re-stored, for-giv-en, who, like me, His  
still the same for-ev-er, slow to chide and  
15 hands he gent-ly bears us, res-cues us from  
8 praise should sing? Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
swift to bless. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
21 all our foes. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
8 Praise the ev-er-last-ing King!  
Glo-rious in His faith-ful-ness.  
Wide-ly as His mer-cy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
but while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the High Eternal One!

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Luke 23:39-41**

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive. We confess that we have sinned against you, and have clung to evil rather than to Christ. Have mercy on us, and forgive our sin. Restore us to newness of life, and seat us at your table of grace, that we may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Luke 23:42-43**

And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Psalm 96:8**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

## **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.*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING • Genesis 17:1–7**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup> that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup> "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup> And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

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...

Our Father in heaven, you are over all and through all and in all. All things come from you. We exist for you.

*We praise you for all your works, especially in our creation and redemption.*

Holy Father, no one has ever seen you, except the One who is at your side.

*We thank you for making yourself known to us through your Son, Jesus Christ.*

Eternal Father, you loved the Son before the foundation of the world. By your grace you have loved us even as you have loved him.

*We love you because you first loved us. We want to know you and love you even as your Son knows you and loves you.*

Merciful Father, you did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all.

*We believe that you sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive our sins.*

Father of glory, you raised your Son from the dead, and you have given all things into his hands.

*We tremble at your power over life and death. We submit to the authority of your Son.*

Father, you have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

*We adore you for adopting us as your sons and daughters through Christ. We rejoice that you have qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you.

*We thank you for your daily care for our physical needs. Please keep our hearts from loving the gifts more than the Giver.*

Father of spirits, what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

*We trust that you love us, and that you are forming Christ in us through our temporary sufferings. Please have mercy on us in the weakness of our faith, and make us ready for heaven.*

Father of the fatherless and protector of widows, you love justice and mercy.

*We want to be more like you. Please help us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to put their needs before our own.*

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, teach us to pray as your Son taught His disciples, 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.*

# Before The Throne Of God Above

Text: Charitie Lees Bancroft • Music: Vikki Cook • ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part". The score includes measure numbers 4, 7, 11, 14, and 17.

Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a  
strong and per-fect plea A great High Priest whose name is  
love Who ev-er lives and pleads for me My name is gra-ven on His  
hands My name is writ - ten on His heart I know that  
while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence de -  
part No tongue can bid me thence de - part

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look to see him there, who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,  
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
the great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood,  
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God.

# To You, O Lord, I Lift My Eyes

Text: Psalm 123 • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



8  
To You, O Lord, I lift my eyes,  
4  
O Lord our God, Your mer-cy show,  
7  
To You en - throned a - bove the skies.  
8  
For hu - man pride and scorn we know.  
10  
As ser - vants  
8  
Re - proach and  
13  
watch their mas - ter's hand, Or  
8  
shame your saints en - dure, From  
16  
maid - ens by their mis - tress stand,  
8  
sin - ners who ap - pear se - cure.  
20  
So to the Lord our eyes we raise,  
8  
To You O Lord, I lift my eyes,  
Un - til His mer - cy He dis - plays.  
8  
To You en - throned a - bove the skies.

## GOSPEL READING • Matthew 1:1–17\*

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham brought forth Isaac,  
and Isaac brought forth Jacob,  
3 and Jacob brought forth Judah and his brothers,  
and Judah brought forth Perez and Zerah by Tamar,  
and Perez brought forth Hezron,  
and Hezron brought forth Ram,  
4 and Ram brought forth Amminadab,  
and Amminadab brought forth Nahshon,  
and Nahshon brought forth Salmon,  
5 and Salmon brought forth Boaz by Rahab,  
and Boaz brought forth Obed by Ruth,  
and Obed brought forth Jesse,  
6 and Jesse brought forth David the king.

And David brought forth Solomon by the wife of Uriah,  
7 and Solomon brought forth Rehoboam,  
and Rehoboam brought forth Abijah,  
and Abijah brought forth Asaph,  
8 and Asaph brought forth Jehoshaphat,  
and Jehoshaphat brought forth Joram,  
and Joram brought forth Uzziah,  
9 and Uzziah brought forth Jotham,  
and Jotham brought forth Ahaz,  
and Ahaz brought forth Hezekiah,  
10 and Hezekiah brought forth Manasseh,  
and Manasseh brought forth Amos,  
and Amos brought forth Josiah,  
11 and Josiah brought forth Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah brought forth Shealtiel,  
and Shealtiel brought forth Zerubbabel,  
13 and Zerubbabel brought forth Abiud,  
and Abiud brought forth Eliakim,  
and Eliakim brought forth Azor,  
14 and Azor brought forth Zadok,  
and Zadok brought forth Achim,  
and Achim brought forth Eliud,  
15 and Eliud brought forth Eleazar,  
and Eleazar brought forth Matthan,  
and Matthan brought forth Jacob,  
16 and Jacob brought forth Joseph  
the husband of Mary,  
of whom Jesus was brought forth, who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations,  
and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations,  
and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

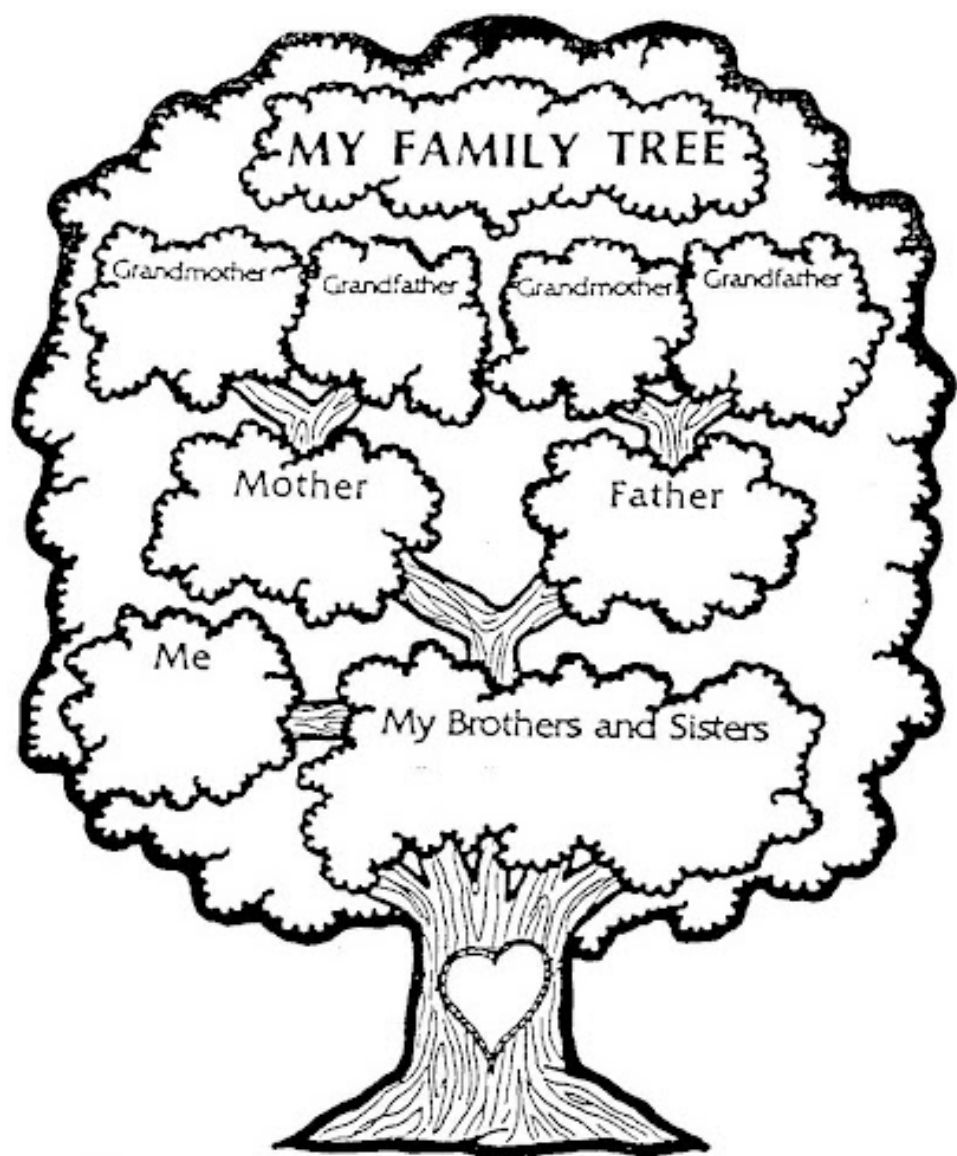
The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

**SERMON • “The Origin Story, Part 1” (Rev. Eric Costa)**

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\* With some translation and format changes from the ESV.







THE UPPER ROOM



**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].)

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\* 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.”

# How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Text & Music: Stuart Townend • ©1995 Thankyou Music

How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how  
Be - hold the man up - on the cross, my  
I will not boast in an - y thing, no  
vast be - yond all mea - sure, that  
sin up - on His should - ers; a -  
5 gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but  
He should give His on - ly Son to  
shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call  
7 I will boast in Je - sus Christ, His  
make a wretch His trea - sure. How  
out a - mong the scof - fers. It  
10 death and res - ur - rect - ion. Why  
great the pain of sear - ing loss; the Fa - ther turns His  
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac -  
13 should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an  
face a - way as wounds which mar the  
com - plished. His dy - ing breath has  
15 an - swer, but this I know with  
cho - sen one bring man - y sons to glo - ry.  
brought me life, I know that it is fin - ished.  
all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

# Jesus Lives And So Shall I

Text: Christian F. Gellert • Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

Je-sus lives, and so shall I, death, thy sting is  
gone for-ev-er. He who deigned for me to die,  
still re-main-ing. I shall al-so be with Him,  
lives, the bands of death to sev-er. He shall raise me  
ev-er liv-ing ev-er reign-ing. God has prom-ised  
from the dust: Je-sus is my hope and trust!— He lives! He  
be it must, Je-sus is my hope and trust!—  
lives! Je-sus lives!— He lives! He lives! and so shall

!!

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict'ry o'er my passions giving,  
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living.  
Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust!

*(Chorus)*

Jesus lives, I know full well, naught from him my heart can sever,  
life nor death, nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, henceforth forever.  
None of all his saints is lost: Jesus is my hope and trust!

*(Chorus)*

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.  
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;  
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is my hope and trust!

*(Chorus x2)*

## BENEDICTION • 1 Kings 8:57-58

The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers.  
May he not leave us or forsake us,  
that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways.

~

**For Those Joining Us in Person...** Greetings! We're glad you're here! Our access to God the Father, our relationship in Christ, our unity in the Spirit is the most important thing in the world. We hope that as many people as possible will feel comfortable joining us for Worship, so we're asking everyone to wear a mask while indoors. Whether or not this is an inconvenience to you, please extend patience and grace to each other during this time when we might have differing opinions on what it means to faithfully respond to God in our love for each other.

**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).)

**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](mailto:deacons@ascensionpc.org).)

**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](mailto:wu.gardens@gmail.com)).

**Men's Retreat** • Fri. - Sun., Nov. 12-14, in Lincoln City. The cost will be \$90 per person. For more details, and to register, contact Brian Aznoe ([baznoe@gmail.com](mailto:baznoe@gmail.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](mailto:bduncan47@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.