



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 9, 2022



THE WORD

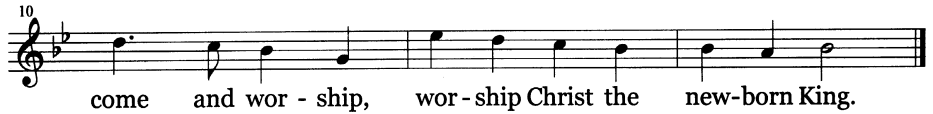
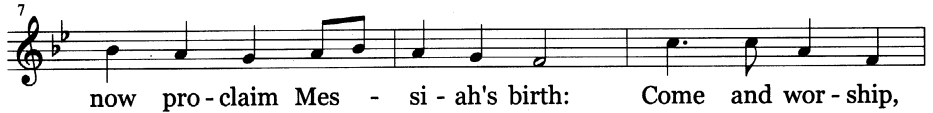
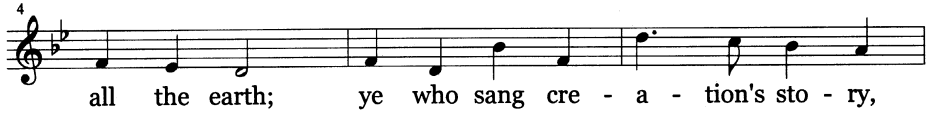
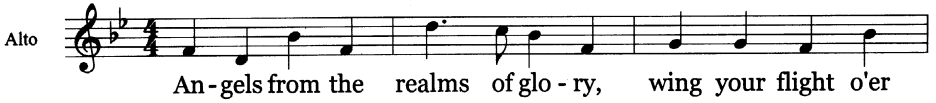


CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 47:5-7

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Text: James Montgomery • Music: Henry Smart • Public Domain



Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing; yonder shines the infant light.

(Chorus)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; you have seen his natal star.

(Chorus)

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.

(Chorus)

Sinners, wrung with true repentance, doomed for guilt to endless pains,
Justice now revokes the sentence, Mercy calls you; break your chains.

(Chorus)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Hebrews 7:23-25

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he lives always to make intercession for them.

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 • Hebrews 7:26-27

For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 24:3-6

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...

Father Eternal, God Almighty, you have brought forth from the root of Jesse a shoot, Jesus our Savior.

He is your anointed one, the promised Messiah, in him you are well pleased. We come to you in his service, to offer our prayers of intercession for the coming of his kingdom.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be both Lord and Christ.

We pray for the Church of Christ that she might be faithful to her Lord, bearing witness to his reign in every land among every people.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be our Lord and Shepherd.

We pray for those whom you have appointed to be ministers of your gospel. We especially ask for your protection and help for our pastor.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be Lord of all the earth.

We pray that you draw all people to kneel before the Prince of Peace. Please establish justice and peace between nations in your world.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus King of kings and Lord of lords.

We pray for the rulers of our nation that they might be wise, fearing the Lord to whom they must bow in the world to come.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus a counselor and comforter of your people.

We pray for those among us who suffer, for those who are lonely, for those without home or family, for those who are depressed and discouraged, for those who are seeking work, for those who are sick, for those who are grieving.

Praise, honor and glory belong to you, Eternal Father, and to your Son, who taught us to pray 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.

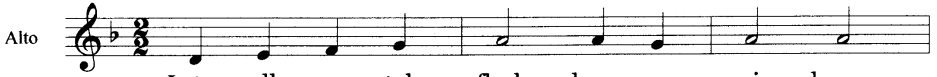
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

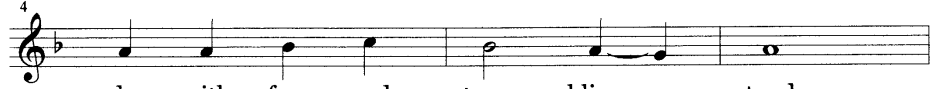
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

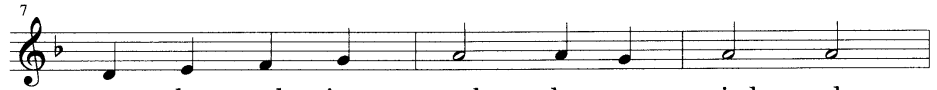
Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th Century • Music: French Melody • Public Domain



Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence,
King of kings, yet born of Mar - y,
Rank on rank the host of heav - en
At His feet the six - winged ser - aph;



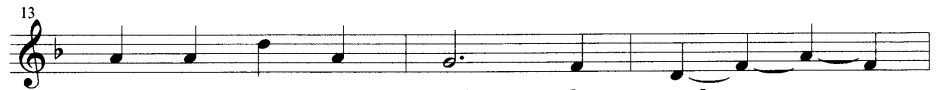
and with fear and trem - bling stand;
as of old on earth He stood,
spreads its van - guard on the way,
cher - u - bim, with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,
Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
as the Light of light de - - scend - eth
veil their fac - es to the pre - ence,



for with bless - ing in his hand,
in the bod - y and the blood,
from the realms of end - less day,
as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - - - -
He will give to all the faith - - - -
that the pow'rs of hell may van - - - -
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - -"



eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
ia. al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley & Mark Hunt • Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard • Public Domain

Voice

The image shows a musical score for a voice part. It consists of six 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. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, and rests.

Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to
set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -
lease us; let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's
strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the
earth thou art, dear De - sire of ev - 'ry
na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!

O'er the hills the angels singing, news, glad tidings of a birth;
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.

Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “Blessed Are The Pure In Heart” (Rev. Eric Costa)

“Who can say, ‘I have made my heart pure; I am clean from my sin?’” (Proverbs 20:9)

“One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple... You have said, ‘Seek my face.’ My heart says to you, ‘Your face, LORD, do I seek.’” (Psalm 27:4, 8)

“Purity of heart is to will one thing.” (Søren Kierkegaard)

“The vision of God... is the goal of the pure in heart.” (R. T. France)

“The darkness of duplicity, iniquity, and vulgarity does not reside in God. He is the divine transparency of sheer light. He is the pure light of truth, goodness, and beauty.” (Thomas Weinandy)

“The pure in heart are the utterly sincere. Their whole life, public and private, is transparent before God and men. Their very heart—including their thoughts and motives—is pure, unmixed with anything devious, ulterior, or base. Hypocrisy and deceit are abhorrent to them; they are without guile... Only the pure in heart will see God, see him now with the eye of faith and see his glory in the hereafter, for only the utterly sincere can bear the dazzling vision in whose light the darkness of deceit must vanish and by whose fire all shams are burned up.” (John Stott)



THE UPPER ROOM



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.

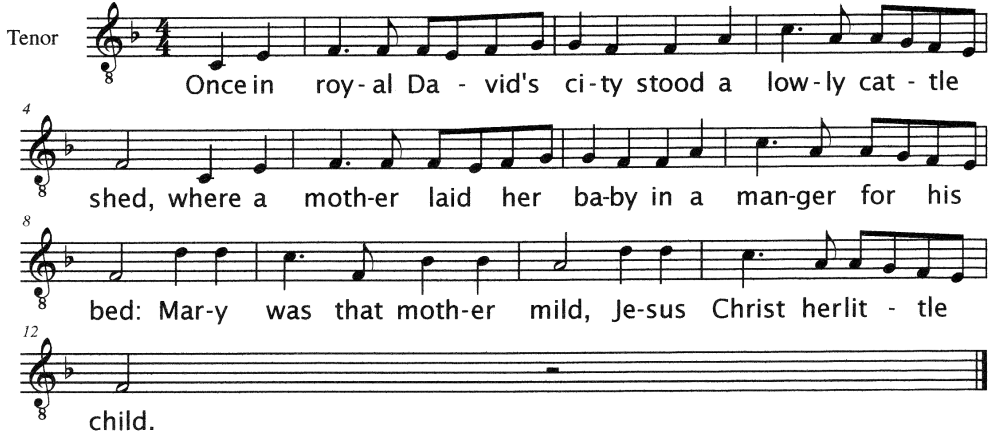
GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(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].)

Once In Royal David's City

Text: Cecil Francis Alexander • Music: Henry J. Gauntlett • Public Domain

Tenor



8

4

8

8

12

8

Once in roy-al Da - vid's ci-ty stood a low-ly cat - tle
shed, where a moth-er laid her ba-by in a man-ger for his
bed: Mar-y was that moth-er mild, Je-sus Christ her lit - tle
child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall be around.

The People That In Darkness Sat

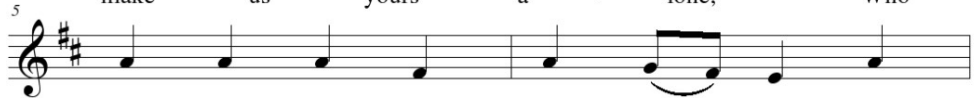
Text: Paraphrase of Isaiah 9:2-7 • Music: John Morison • Public Domain



The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat a
To hail you, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, the
To us the Child of hope is born, to
His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the
His righ - teous gov - ern - ment and pow'r shall
Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and



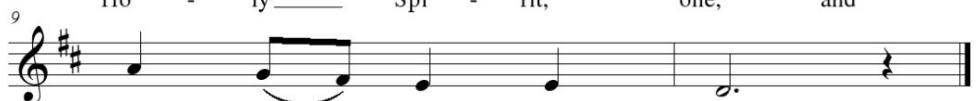
glo - rious light have seen; The
gath - 'ring na - tions come; They
us the Son is giv'n, And
Ev - er - last - ing Lord, The
o - ver all ex - tend; On
make us yours a - lone, Who



light has shined on them who long in
joy as when the reap - ers bear their
on his shoul - der ev - er rests all
Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the
judg - ment and on jus - tice based, his
with the Fa - ther ev - er are and



shades of death have been, in
har - vest trea - sures home, their
pow'r in earth and heav'n, all
God by all a - dored, the
reign shall have no end, his
Ho - ly Spi - rit, one, and



shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home.
pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored.
reign shall have no end.
Ho - ly Spi - rit, one.

O Holy Night

Text: John S. Dwight • Music: Adolphe Adam • Public Domain

Tenor

8 O ho - ly night - the stars are bright - ly shin -
5 Tru - ly He taught - us to love one a - noth -
8 ing, it is the night of our dear Sav - ior's birth.
10 er, His law is love and His gos - pel is peace.
8 Long lay the world - in sin and er - ror pin -
14 Chains shall He break - the slave he is our bro -
8 ing till He ap - peared and the soul felt its worth.
18 ther, and in His name all op - res - sion shall cease.
8 A thrill of hope the wear - y soul re -
22 Sweet hymns of joy in grate - ful cho - rus
8 joic - es, for yon - der breaks a new and glor - ious
26 raise we, let all with - in us praise His ho - ly
8 morn. Fall - - - on your knees - - - O hear -
32 name.
8 the an - gel voic - es! O night - - - di -
37 vine - - - O - night - - - when Christ was born!
42 O night! Di - vine! O night!
48 O night di - vine!

BENEDICTION • Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to you, brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

~

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.)

After Worship Today • From 11:40 to 12:15, children will gather in the sanctuary for Sunday School, and adults are welcome to join the Sermon Discussion in the Fellowship Hall.

Men’s Study • 6:30am Tuesdays at the Starbucks at the Sunset Esplanade (2521 SE TV Highway). This group is discussing Michael Reeves’ book, *Delighting in the Trinity*.

Women’s Study • 7pm Wednesdays. This group is discussing Dane Ortlund’s book, *Gentle and Lowly*. Locations vary - contact Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Congregational Conversation • Sun., Jan. 23, after Worship. We’ll give a 2021 financial report, provide the 2022 budget, and make room for conversation about church matters in general. (There will be no Sunday School or Sermon Discussion that day.)

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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)
Betsy L., Missionary in Spain with Serge (serge.org)

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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.