# ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 6, 2022

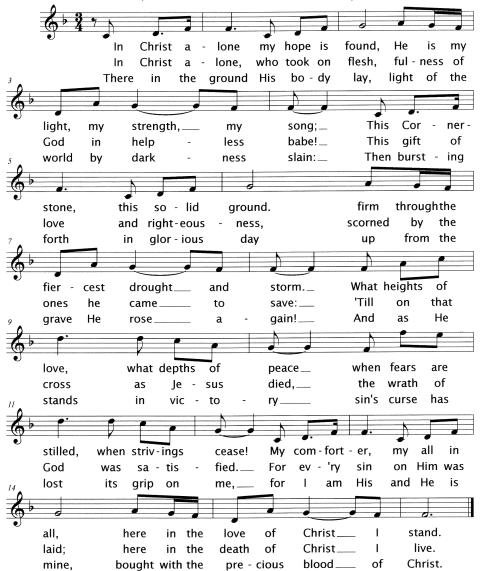


#### CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 72:18-19

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

#### In Christ Alone

Text & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend • ©2001 Thankyou Music



No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand; 'till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

## CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Genesis 3:7-9

The eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

#### **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 • Genesis 3:21

The LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

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

#### OFFERING • Malachi 3:10

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."

## 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 • Leviticus 19:17-18**

"You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

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...

O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:

Particularly for our sister churches in the Pacific Northwest Presbytery.

O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:

We pray for those who do not know you; we pray that your gospel would run in our city; we pray that your fame and glory would spread here and throughout the world.

O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:

Please give our President humility, wisdom, strength and trust in you. Please bless our Governor and our Mayor; please bring prosperity and peace to our city through your gospel.

O Lord, we cry out to you for the poor and suffering of our community:

We pray for those who are living on the streets. We pray for those who are discouraged and suffering in depression. We pray for those who are struggling financially. We pray for those who are sick or facing imminent death and for those who care for them.

O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs...

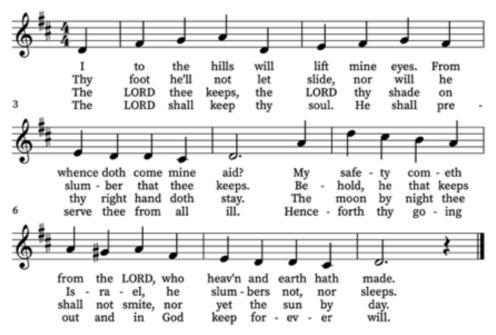
(Silent prayer)

All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, 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.

#### Psalm 121

Text: 1615 Scottish Psalter • Music: Dundee (Th. Ravenscroft) • Public Domain



#### Psalm 46

Text & Music: Mike Crawford, Isaac Wardell • ©2009 Mike Crawford



#### **GOSPEL READING** • Matthew 5:38-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' <sup>39</sup> But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup> And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ. *Praise be to you, O Christ!* 

#### SERMON • "Love Your Enemies" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him." (Exodus 23:4-5)

"Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:17-21)

"Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing." (1 Peter 3:9)

"'You shall be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect' (Mt. 5:48). This is not a law which crushes and kills. It would be so only if we were to hear it, not from the mouth of Jesus Christ, from which it comes to us as a law fulfilled by him, but as a human regulation, which we would have to fulfill... Is there any news more glad and comforting than that God wills this similarity between him and us and has already created it in Jesus Christ?" (Karl Barth)

"The Christian's behavior must be determined not by the way others treat him, but by the treatment he himself receives from Jesus; it has only one source, and that is the will of Jesus.

"The love for our enemies takes us along the way of the cross and into fellowship with the Crucified." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)





## **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].)

#### My Jesus, I Love Thee



Text: William Featherstone • Music: Adoniram Gordon • Public Domain

# Hosanna In The Highest

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

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(Repeat final chorus)

#### **BENEDICTION • 1 Thessalonians 3:12**

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all.

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 each 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>!

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.

**Photo Directory Pictures & Information** • If you would like a picture taken for our church's forthcoming photo directory, see Bill Duncan after Worship sometime in the next few weeks. If you need your contact information included or updated, email Eric (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

**Men's Study** • 6:30am Tuesdays at the Starbucks at the Sunset Esplanade (2521 SE TV Highway). This group is discussing Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

**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).

**Summer Campout** • Fri. - Sun., July 29-31, at South Beach State Park (near Newport). To register, 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) Betsy L., Missionary in Spain with Serge (serge.org)

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(Drop this contact card in the offering, or hand it to the Pastor.)							
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