



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 27, 2022



THE WORD



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 95:6-8a**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker!

For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you hear his voice,  
do not harden your hearts.



## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 32:1-4**

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His holy name. Amen.*

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Psalm 32:5**

I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Matthew 6:24**

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

## **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 42:1-2

- 1 As a deer pants for flowing streams,  
so pants my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul thirsts for God,  
for the living God.  
When shall I come and appear before God?

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...

(From David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-13)

Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

*Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.*

Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

*Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.*

In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

*And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.*

And we pray your beloved Son's prayer:

*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

1 My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name;\_\_\_\_  
2 When through the shades of death I walk, your pre - sence is my stay;\_\_\_\_  
3 Your sure pro - vi - sions, gra - cious God at - tend me all my days;\_\_\_\_

in pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the li - ving stream.\_\_\_\_  
one word of your sup - por - ting breath drives all my fears a - way.\_\_\_\_  
oh, may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.\_\_\_\_

You bring my wand' - ring spi - rit back, when I for - sake your ways;\_\_\_\_  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;\_\_\_\_  
Here would I find a set - tled rest, while o - thers go and come;\_\_\_\_

you lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
my cup with bles - sings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.  
no more a stran - ger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

# Thy Mercy, My God

Lyrics: John Stoker • Music: Sandra McCracken

© 2001 Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP)



1. Thy mer - cy, my\_ God, is the theme of my song, the  
out thy sweet mer - cy I could\_ not live here;  
mer - cy is\_ more than a match for my heart which  
fath - er of\_ mer - cies thy good - ness I own and the



joy of my\_ heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy free grace a - lone from the first  
Sin would re - duce me to ut - ter des - pair; but through thy free good - ness my spir  
won - ders to\_ feel its own hard - ness de - part; - dis - solved - by thy good - ness - I fall  
cov - e - nant love of thy cruc - i - fied son; all praise to the spi - rit whose whis



— to the last hath won my af - fec - tions and bound\_ my soul fast.  
- its re - vive and he that first made me still keeps\_ me a - live.  
— to the ground and weep for the praise of the mer - cy I've found.  
- per di - vine seals mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness



2. With mine. All praise to the spir - it whose whis - per di - vine  
3. Thy  
4. Great



— seals mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

## **GOSPEL READING • Matthew 6:16-18**

<sup>1</sup> “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven...

<sup>16</sup> “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

## **SERMON • “Secret Fasting And Its Reward” (Rev. Eric Costa)**

“He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.” (Deuteronomy 8:3)

“The disciples of John came to Jesus, saying, ‘Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?’ And Jesus said to them, ‘Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.’” (Matthew 9:14-15)

“What exactly is fasting? What is its purpose? There can be no doubt that ultimately it is something which is based on an understanding of the relationship between the body and the spirit. These are very intimately related to one another and interact very closely upon one another... What fasting really means is abstinence from food for spiritual purposes.” (David Martyn Lloyd-Jones)

“As an act of faith, Christian fasting is a hunger for God awakened by the taste of God freely given in the Gospel... This is the essence of Christian fasting: We ache and yearn to know more and more of all that God is for us in Jesus. But only because he has already laid hold of us and is drawing us ever forward and upward into ‘all the fullness of God.’” (John Piper)

“To be drawn into a life of fasting is to learn to live without what I assumed I could not live without.” (Stanley Hauerwas)







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.”

# I Hunger And I Thirst

Text: John S. B. Monsell, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl

Used by Permission

Tenor

I hun - ger and I thirst;  
Thou bruised and bro - ken Bread,  
Thou true life - giv - ing Vine,  
Rough paths my feet have trod,  
Je - sus my man - na be; ye liv - ing wa - ters,  
my life - long needs sup - ply; as liv - ing souls are  
let me Thy sweet - ness prove; re - new my life with  
since first their course be - gan; feed me, thou Bread of  
burst, out of the rock for me. I  
fed, O feed me or I die. I  
Thine, re - fresh my soul with love. I  
God, help me thou Son of Man. I  
hun - ger and I thirst; Je - sus my man - na be!  
hun - ger and I thirst; Je - sus my man - na be!  
hun - ger and I thirst; Je - sus my man - na be!  
hun - ger and I thirst; Je - sus my man - na be!  
Je - sus Christ the bread of  
life, I hun - ger for you Lord!

For still the desert lies my thirsting soul before;  
O living waters rise within me evermore.  
I hunger and I thirst, Jesus my manna be!

*Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, I hunger for you Lord!*  
*Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, I hunger for you Lord!*

# Love Me To The End

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: Jeff Koonce • ©2006 Red Mountain Music

Tenor



8 A beg - ar poor, at mer - cy's door, lies  
A wick - ed heart is no small part, of  
3 My stub - born will op - pos - es still, Thy  
8 such a wretch as I; Thou know'st my need is  
my dist - ress and shame; Let sover - eign grace its  
6 wise and ho - ly hand; Thy spi - rit send to  
8 great in - deed, Lord hear me when I cry.  
crimes ef - face, through Jes - sus' bles - sed name.  
9 make it bend, to Thy su - preme com - mand.  
8 With guilt be - set and deep in debt, for  
My dark - ened mind I dail - y find, is  
11 Af - fect - ions wild by sin def - iled, oft  
8 pard - on Lord, I pray; O let Thy love suf -  
prone to go as - tray; Lord on it shine with  
14 hur - ry me a - way; Lord, bring them home nor  
8 fi - cient prove, to take my sins a - way.  
light di - vine, and guide it in Thy way.  
let them roam, from Christ the Li - ving Way.

Before thy face I've told my case; Lord help and mercy send;  
pity my soul and make me whole, and love me to the end.

## BENEDICTION • 2 Peter 1:2

May grace and peace be multiplied to you  
in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

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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](http://ascensionpc.org)/worship.)

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

**Home Group** • Today, after Worship and Sunday School, at the home of Tim and Sara Sery. Join us for lunch and conversation about Dane Ortlund’s book, *Deeper: Real Change for Real Sinners*.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:jerilee.costa@gmail.com)).

**Men’s Breakfast** • 7:30am Sat., Apr. 2 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). Please bring something to share for our meal together, and think about inviting a friend. RSVP to Eric ([rev.eric.costa@gmail.com](mailto:rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)).

**Mercy Sunday** • On the first Sunday of each month (Apr. 3) 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](mailto: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. *Please bring dry beans to donate—let’s try to collect 100 items in total!*

**Good Friday Service** • 7pm Fri., Apr. 15.

**Easter Breakfast** • 8:30am Sun., Apr. 17. To sign up to bring part of the meal and/or to help with setup, contact Jerilee ([jerilee.costa@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:neh.hamilton@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 ([nwcpnetwork.com](http://nwcpnetwork.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))  
Betsy L., Missionary in Spain with Serge ([serge.org](http://serge.org))

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[ascensionpc.org](http://ascensionpc.org)



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(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.