ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • APRIL 24, 2022



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 98:1-4

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Text: Matthew Bridges • Music: *Diademata*, George Elvey Arr. © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Word Music (a div. of WORD MUSIC)



PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 145:8-9

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Psalm 145:18-20

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.The LORD preserves all who love him,

but all the wicked he will destroy.

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

OFFERING • Acts 20:32, 35

"Now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified... By working hard we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

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 145

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...

Through Jesus, whom we confess as Lord, we give thanks and praise to the Father, calling on him who is judge of all:

Father, your kingdom come.

For all the peoples of the world; that they may know you as the God of peace, we pray to you, O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

For nations, leaders and governments; that integrity may mark all their dealings, we pray to you O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

For all who labor for righteousness; that your presence and help may give them courage, we pray to you, O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

For communities torn by dissension and strife; that your forgiveness may bring them healing, we pray to you, O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

For the anxious, the lonely, the bereaved; that consolation and peace may be theirs, we pray to you, O Lord:

Father, your kingdom come.

For the Church, your household and family; that she may be firm in the confession of her hope, we pray to you, O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

For our pastor, elders, and deacons, and for all who bear Christ's name; that their lives may proclaim your glory, we pray to you, O Lord: Father, your kingdom come.

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep: make us perfect in all goodness to do your will and to be what you would have us be; through him to whom be glory forever, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Thy Mercy, My God

Lyrics: John Stoker • Music: Sandra McCracken © 2001 Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP)



Who Is Like The Lord, Our God? (Psalm 113)

Text: Wendell Kimbrough • Music: Bruce Benedict & Wendell Kimbrough • © 2013 Cardiphonia Music



Though equal to God in his glory, Christ Jesus became like a slave; he humbled himself in obedience to death, and the cross, and the grave. Victorious, he rose to the highest; in glory, the Savior was raised. His name above all names exalted; the heavens and earth sing his praise. Who is like the Lord, our God? Who with glory fills the sky? But humbles himself with the broken to dwell, who is like our God?

O saints, fix your eyes on the Savior and count all your righteousness loss. Be found in his love and his favor, and share in his death on the cross. That all of his power in vict'ry, imparted to you, may abound; and sharing the sufferings of Jesus, you share in his glory and crown. Who is like the Lord, our God? Who with glory fills the sky? But humbles himself with the broken to dwell, who is like our God?

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 6:25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

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

SERMON • "Do Not Be Anxious" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:4-9)

"He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32)

"[Anxiety] is not simply an emotion that erodes our quality of life or a pain to be alleviated. It is a misdirected love that should be confessed. It is trying to manage our world apart from God." (Ed Welch)

"'Be anxious not for the morrow.' This is not to be taken as a philosophy of life or a moral law: it is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and only so can it be understood. Only those who follow him and know him can receive this word as a promise of the love of his Father and as a deliverance from the thraldom of material things...

"Anxiety is characteristic of the Gentiles, for they rely on their own strength and work instead of relying on God. They do not know that the Father knows that we have need of all these things, and so they try to do for themselves what they do not expect from God." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

"What is the anxiety from which Jesus seeks to detach us? Very simply, it's our failure to grasp and live out of the significance of Jesus Christ. Anxiety is our failure—sometimes from fear, sometimes from pride —to allow that, in and as the man Jesus, God rules all things in heaven and earth, and therefore that our lives are in God's good hands...

"Anxiety is not a private disorder of the personality which some of us have to struggle with, but an entire way of being human in the world...

"Our present experience of life may be very dark, undoubtedly. We may face fearful prospects. But even at its most burdensome, our lives now are not perilously poised over some great chasm into which we may fall at any time. No, our lives are hidden with Christ in God. And our future isn't some dark possibility lying over the horizon waiting to devour us. no, it's the place where we will encounter the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (John Webster)





CONFESSION OF FAITH • Colossians 1:15-20

Who is Jesus Christ?

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. 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.*

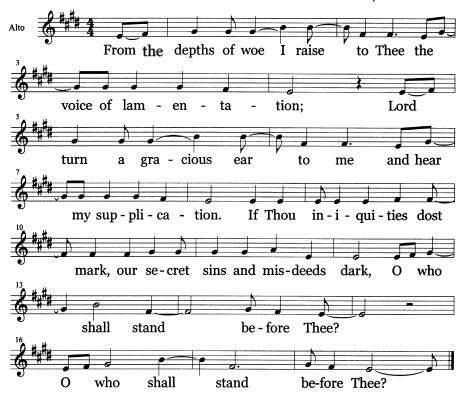
The gifts of God for the people of God.

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].)

From The Depth Of Woe (Psalm 130)

Text: Martin Luther (Based on Psalm 130) • Music: ©1997 Christopher Miner



To wash away the crimson stain grace, grace alone availeth; Our works, alas! are all in vain, in much the best life faileth; No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might, And live alone by mercy.

Therefore my trust is in the Lord and not in my own merit; On him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit: His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support: I wait for it with patience.

And though I wait the whole night through and till the dawn appeareth, My heart still trusteth in his might, it doubteth not nor feareth: Do thus, O you of Israel's seed, you of the Spirit born indeed; And wait till God appeareth.

Though great our sins and sore our woes, his grace much more aboundeth; His helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth. Our shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free From all their sin and sorrow.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives—Glory, Hallelujah!

Text: Samuel Medley • Music: American Folk Hymn • Public Domain



BENEDICTION • Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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 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* (chs. 1-2).

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).

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (May. 1) 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>!

Summer Campout • Fri. - Sun., July 29-31, at South Beach State Park (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.)	
Name(s)	 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.
Email / Phone	[] Please use this info for the photo directory.