ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 22, 2023

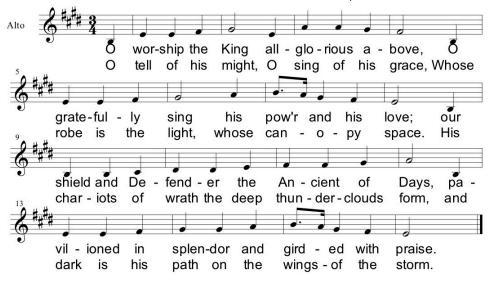


CALL TO WORSHIP • Colossians 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

O Worship The King

Text: Robert Grant (Psalm 104) • Music: Johann Michael Haydn • Public Domain



The earth with its store of wonders untold, almighty, thy power hath founded of old; established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 Peter 1:18-19

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy Trinity, your love is eternal.
You are love.
There is none like you.
We are not like you.
We have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, or strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We sin and fall short of your glory.
In the holiness of your love, forgive us.
Cleanse us, glorify us, fill us with your love.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.

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 Yahweh¹ 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.

¹ The ESV translates God's personal name, Yahweh, as "the LORD" (small caps).

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Jonah 1:17; 2:10 – 3:10

^{1:17} Yahweh appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights...

 $^{2:10}$ And Yahweh spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

^{3:1} Then the word of Yahweh came to Jonah the second time, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." ³ So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of Yahweh. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶ The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷ And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸ but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

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...

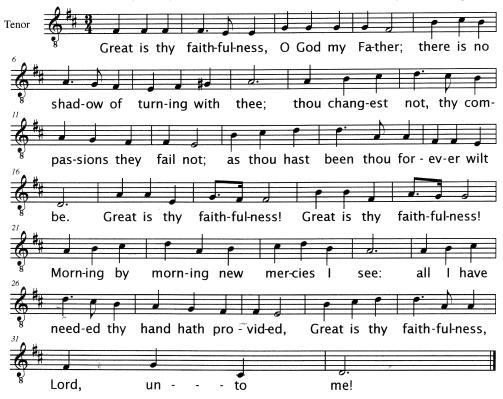
(Elder leads in prayer)

And now we join together with the Lord in the prayer he taught us:

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.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Music: William M. Runyan • Lyric: Thomas O. Chisolm • ©1923/1951 Hope Publishing Co.

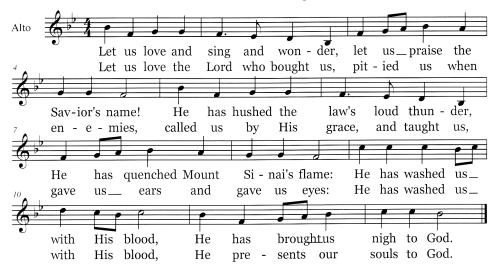


Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see: all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten-thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see: all I have needed thy hand hath provided, great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder

Text: John Newton • Music: Darmstadt Gesangbuch



Let us sing though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down! For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown: He has washed us with His blood, soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store; When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more: He has washed us with His blood, has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high; Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky: "You have washed us with Your blood; You are worthy, Lamb of God!"

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 12:38-50

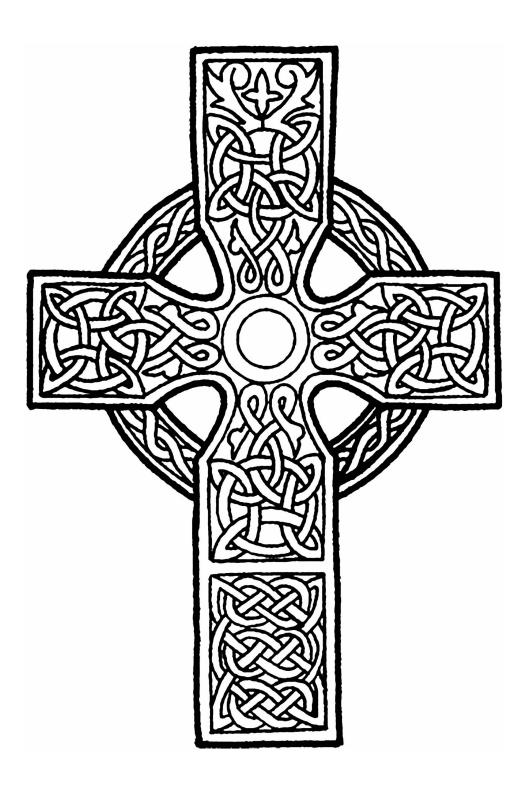
Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." ³⁹ But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. ⁴² The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

⁴³ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. ⁴⁴ Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there, and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So also will it be with this evil generation."

⁴⁶ While he was still speaking to the people, behold, his mother and his brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him. ⁴⁸ But he replied to the man who told him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" ⁴⁹ And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

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

SERMON • "The True People of God" (Rev. Eric Costa)





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].)

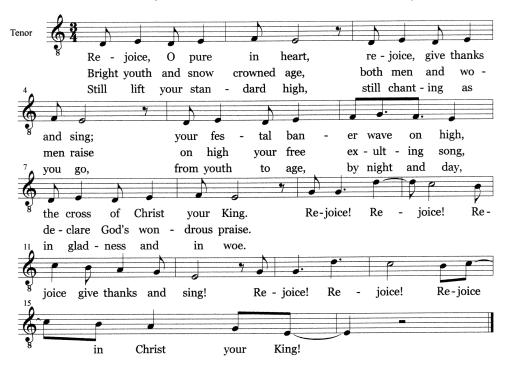
In Mercy Broken

Lyric: Reginald Heber • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Rejoice In Christ Your King

Text: Edward H. Plumptre • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest, the pilgrims reach their home at last, Jerusalem the blest.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice in Christ your King!

Praise God, who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore: the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice in Christ your King!

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.

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After Worship Today • Join us around 11:30 for Sunday School (kids) and Sermon Discussion (adults).

Congregational Meeting • After Worship on Sun., Feb. 19. We will provide a 2022 financial report and 2023 budget. We will also make room for a conversation about articulating what is distinctive about our congregation as an expression of the church.

Men's Study • 6:30am Wednesdays at Starbucks (16175 SW Walker Road, Beaverton). This group is surveying the Bible using *The Drama of Scripture* by C. Bartholomew and M. W. Goheen. Contact: Rob Stevenson (robert.james.stevenson@gmail.com) for more information.

Women's Studies:

- 2pm Wednesdays. Contact: Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@gmail.com).
- 7pm Thursdays. Contact: Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

"Ascension Young Adults" (AYA) • 6:30pm - 8pm Wednesdays. 6th through 12th graders are encouraged to come, and to invite their friends. Contact: Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com).

Shepherding Meetings • The elders want to check in with the members of the church. We like to use these questions to kickstart our conversations: 1) What are you thankful for? 2) Where are you seeing the grace of God at work in your life? 3) How can we as elders (or the deacons) serve you?

We're available for these meetings on a regular basis on the third Sunday of each month for lunch or dinner. To schedule a shepherding meeting with us on one of these Sundays, or during some other time, contact Eric (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).

PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT	
Our Denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (pcanet.org)	
Our Presbytery (pacificnorthwestpresbytery.com)	
Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpnetwork.com)	
Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org)	
Brian & Faith Janssen, Missionaries in Taiwan with OMF (omf.org/asia/taiwan)	
Betsy L., Missionary in Spain with Serge (serge.org)	
Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.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.