



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 29, 2023



CALL TO WORSHIP • Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

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)

▶ 1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne.
▶ 2. Crown Him the Lord of love! Be - hold His hands and side-
▶ 3. Crown Him the Lord of life! Who tri - umphed o'er the grave;
▶ 4. Crown Him the Lord of heav'n! One with the Fa - ther known,

Hark! how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own!
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
Who rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.
One with the Spir - it thro' Him giv'n From yon - der glo - rious throne.

A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me: Thy
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who
To Thee be end - less praise, For Thou for us hast died. Be

hail Him as thy match-less King Thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.
praise and glo - ry shall not fail Thro' - out e - ter - ni - ty.
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
Thou, O Lord, thro' end - less days A - dored and mag - ni - fied!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 John 1:8, 10

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

CONFESSION OF SIN • From Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment... Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 6:2-4

“When you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

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 • Isaiah 6:8-12

I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." ⁹ And he said, "Go, and say to this people:

"Keep on hearing, but do not understand;
keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people dull,
and their ears heavy,
and blind their eyes;
lest they see with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed."

¹¹ Then I said, "How long, O Lord?"

And he said:

"Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is a desolate waste,

¹² and Yahweh removes people far away,
and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land."

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...

Lord, you built your church and promised to dwell with her forever.

Bless all who guard and feed your sheep, those who shepherd souls, those who care for the poor, those who minister praise, as well as those who teach your Word, that, as you are lifted up, men and women will be drawn to you.

Lord, likewise, you rule over all the nations of the earth.

We pray for peace in every corner of the world: where there is war, where there is persecution, where there is starvation, where there is sickness, as well as every nation where there is suffering, that you will be glorified among the nations.

Lord, out of the depths of eternity you moved in history in the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him was life and the life was our light. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Cause that light to shine ever brighter in us and through us.

We pray as you 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.

He Giveth More Grace

Text: Annie Johnson Flint • Music: Hubert Mitchell

© 1941; renewed 1969 by Lillenas Publishing

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are provided for two different vocal parts.

System 1: Chords: C, Dm, A7, Dm. Lyrics: 1. He giv-eth more grace when the bur-dens grow great-er; He send-eth more 2. When we have ex-haust-ed our store of en-dur-ance, When our strength has

System 2: Chords: F, G, G7, C, Em, C7, F, C. Lyrics: strength when the la-bors in-crease. To add-ed af-flic-tion He add-eth His mer-cy; To failed ere the day is half done, When we reach the end of our hoard-ed re-sourc-es, Our

System 3: Chords: Em, A, A7, Dm, C, G7, C, G, Dm, G, C. Lyrics: mul-ti-pliced tri-als, His mul-ti-pliced peace. His love has no lim-it; His grace has no Fath-er's full giv-ing is on-ly be-gun.

System 4: Chords: F, C, Am, G, G7, C, Em, C7. Lyrics: meas-ure; His pow'r has no boun-da-ry known un-to men. For out of His in-fi-nite

System 5: Chords: F, C, A7, Dm, C, G, C. Lyrics: rich-es in Je-sus, He giv-eth, and giv-eth, and giv-eth a-gain.

The Lord's My Shepherd

Text: Psalm 23 • Music: J. L. Macbeth Bain • Public Domain

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Lord's My Shepherd'. It is written in 3/4 time and consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass clef, and a vocal line with lyrics. Chord symbols are placed above the treble clef staff. The lyrics are arranged in five numbered lines, with some lines continuing across systems. The first system covers lines 1-5, the second system covers lines 6-8, and the third system covers lines 9-11. The music concludes with a double bar line.

1. The Lord's my Shep - herd, I'll not want, He makes me down to
2. My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth
3. Al - though I walk through death's dark vale yet will I fear none
4. My tab - le Thou hast furn - ish - ed in pres - ence of my
5. Good - ness and mer - cy all my days shall sure - ly fol - low

5
lie in past - ures green, He lead - eth me the qui - et wat - ers
make with - in the paths of right - eous - ness e'en for His own name's
ill, for Thou art with me and thy rod and staff me com - fort
foes; my head with oil Thou dost a - noint and my cup ov - er -
me, and in my Fath - er's house al - ways my dwel - ling place shall

9
by; He lead - eth me, He lead - eth me the qui - et wat - ers by.
sake, with in the paths of right - eous - ness e'en for His own name's sake.
still, Thy rod and staff me com - fort still, me com - fort still.
- flows, my head with oil Thou dost a - noint and my cup ov - er - flows.
be; and with my Fath - er ev - er - more my dwel - ling place shall be.

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 13:1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear.”

¹⁰ Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” ¹¹ And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

““You will indeed hear but never understand,
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

¹⁵ For this people’s heart has grown dull,
and with their ears they can barely hear,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should see with their eyes
and hear with their ears
and understand with their heart
and turn, and I would heal them.’

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

¹⁸ “Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

SERMON • “The Parable of the Sower” (Rev. Eric Costa)



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.¹ 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 catholic² 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].)

¹ 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.

² Or, “universal.”

A Hymn To God The Father

A Poem by John Donne • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



8 Wilt Thou for - give that sin where I be - gun, which
5 was my sin, though it were done be - fore? Wilt Thou for -
10 give that sin through which I run, and do run still, though
15 still I do de - plore? When Thou hast
19 done, — Thou hast not done, — for I have more, — I have
25 more. When Thou hast done, — Thou hast not done,
30 — for I have more, — I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
a year or two, but wallow'd in a score?

When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more, I have more. (2x)

I have a sin of fear that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
but swear by thyself, that at my death thy sun
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.

And, having done that, thou hast done.
I fear no more. I fear no more. (2x)

May Jesus Christ Be Praised

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

Tenor

8

3

6

8

9

12

8

15

8

18

8

21

8

24

8

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find;
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised! May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this, while life is mine, my love, my song divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised! May Jesus Christ be praised!
My God, the Savior, reigns! May Jesus Christ be praised!

BENEDICTION • Ephesians 1:2

Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

~

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

Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., Feb. 4 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We'll share a potluck breakfast together, then discuss "the Confession of Faith" as an element of our liturgy. Contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Feb. 5) 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 neighborhood elementary school, 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.

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).

"The Ascenders" • 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).

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PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Our Denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (pcanet.org)

Our Presbytery (pacificnorthwestpresbytery.com)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.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)

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.