



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 5, 2023


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP • Revelation 3:20

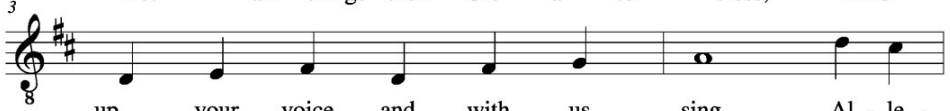
“Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,
I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

All Creatures Of Our God And King

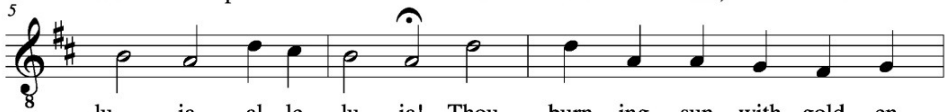
Text: Francis of Assisi • Music: *Giestliche Kirchengesänge* (1623) • Public Domain



All crea - tures of our God and King, lift
Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye
Thou flow - ing wat - er pure and clear, make
And all ye men of ten - der heart, For -
Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, And



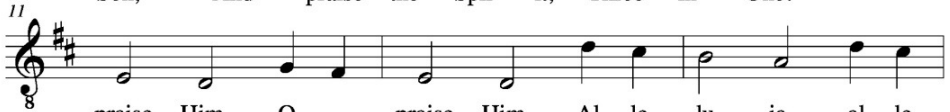
up your voice and with us sing Al - le -
clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, O
mu - sic for thy Lord to hear, Al - le -
giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, O
wor - ship Him in hum - ble - ness, O



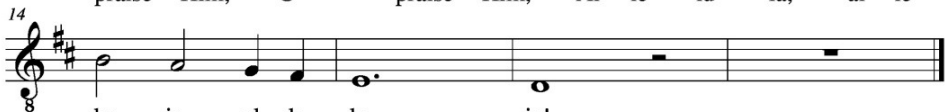
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en
praise Him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn in praise re -
lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and
sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row
praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fath - er, praise the



beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O
joice, Ye lights of eve - ning find a voice,
bright, That giv - est man both warmth and light,
bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!
Son, And praise the Spir - it, Three in One!



praise Him, O praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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 Yahweh¹ God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Yahweh God among the trees of the garden. But Yahweh God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in our actions, in our words, in our minds, in our very hearts.

We have believed lies about you.

We have resented your authority.

We have loved an illusion of our own righteousness.

We have lived as if we could run our lives better than you.

O God, be merciful to us and save us from ourselves.

Assure us of your forgiveness and your love for us in your Son.

Grant us true faith and repentance through your Holy Spirit.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Genesis 3:21

Yahweh 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 • Acts 2:44-45

All who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

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

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 78:1-3, 18-29, 32

- 1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth!
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
3 things that we have heard and known,
that our fathers have told us...
- 18 They tested God in their heart
by demanding the food they craved.
19 They spoke against God, saying,
“Can God spread a table in the wilderness?
20 He struck the rock so that water gushed out
and streams overflowed.
Can he also give bread
or provide meat for his people?”
- 21 Therefore, when Yahweh heard, he was full of wrath;
a fire was kindled against Jacob;
his anger rose against Israel,
22 because they did not believe in God
and did not trust his saving power.
23 Yet he commanded the skies above
and opened the doors of heaven,
24 and he rained down on them manna to eat
and gave them the grain of heaven.
25 Man ate of the bread of the angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;
27 he rained meat on them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;
28 he let them fall in the midst of their camp,
all around their dwellings.
29 And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved...

32 In spite of all this, they still sinned;
despite his wonders, they did not believe.

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...

Most gracious God, who has promised to reveal his glory among all nations,
hear us as we pray for your church. Bless all the ministers of your word and sacraments and unite all Christians in the bonds of holy faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God of our fathers, who has promised to take care of our every need,
give us peaceful times and fruitful seasons. Grant all in authority over us wisdom and strength to do your will through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful Father, comfort all who believe the good news of your grace.
We pray for all who are distressed: the poor, the homeless, the sick, the bereaved, and those afflicted in body and mind. Comfort and relieve them according to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now, as our Savior taught us, we pray:
*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.*

You Are Before Me, Lord

Text: Psalm 139, Ian Pitt-Watson

Music: Trad. Scottish Melody • Public Domain



1.You are be - fore me, Lord, You are be - hind,
2.Then from Your Spir - it where, Lord, shall I go;
3.If I should take my flight in - to the dawn,
4.If I should say, "Let dark - ness cov - er me,
5.Search me, O God, search me and know my heart;



And o - ver me You have spread out Your hand;
And from Your pres - ence where, Lord, shall I fly?
If I should dwell on o - cean's far - thest shore,
And I shall hide with - in the veil of night,"
Try me, O God, my mind and spir - it try;



Such knowl - edge is too won - der - ful for me,
If I as - cend to heav - en You are there,
Your might - y hand will rest up - on me still,
Sure - ly the dark - ness is not dark to You:
Keep me from an - y path that gives You pain,



Too high to grasp, too great to un - der - stand.
And still are with me if in hell I lie.
And Your right hand will guard me ev - er - more.
The night is as the day, the dark - ness light.
And lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

Psalm 121

Text: 1615 Scottish Psalter

Music: Dundee (Th. Ravenscroft) • Public Domain



I to the hills will lift mine eyes. From
Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will he
The LORD thee keeps, the LORD thy shade on
3 The LORD shall keep thy soul. He shall pre -



whence doth come mine aid? My safe - ty com - eth
slum - ber that thee keeps. Be - hold, he that keeps
thy right hand doth stay. The moon by night thee
6 serve thee from all ill. Hence - forth thy go - ing



from the LORD, who heav'n and earth hath made.
Is - ra - el, he slum - bers not, nor sleeps.
shall not smite, nor yet the sun by day.
out and in God keep for - ev - er will.

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 13:53-58

When Jesus had finished these parables, he went away from there, ⁵⁴ and coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? ⁵⁵ Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? ⁵⁶ And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" ⁵⁷ And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household." ⁵⁸ And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • "Unbelief" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"It is not mere ignorance that hinders men, but that, of their own accord, they search after grounds of offense, to prevent them from following the path to which God invites." (John Calvin)

"Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God... Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son." (1 John 5:1, 10)



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH (Jn. 20:28; Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 12:3; Eph. 4:5; Phil. 2:6-11)

What does God the Father want you to know and trust?

*Jesus Christ is Lord!*¹

What does God the Spirit enable you to confess, celebrate, and proclaim?

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Who is the Lord of your life?

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Who is the Lord of the church?

Jesus Christ is Lord!

Who is the Lord of heaven and earth whose reign endures forever?

Jesus Christ is Lord, and there is no other! 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 The oldest known confession of the Christian church is also the shortest: “Jesus is Lord!” This adaptation is meant to unfold some of the facets of this gem of a confession.

My Jesus, I Love Thee

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

1 My Je - sus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
2 I love thee be - cause thou hast first lov - ed me
3 I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
4 In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light,

Chords: F, B^b/F, F, C7, F

for thee all the fol - lies of sin I re - sign;
and pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree;
and praise thee as long as thou lend - est me breath,
I'll ev - er a - dore thee in heav - en so bright;

Chords: B^b/F, F, C7, F

my gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sav - ior art thou;
I love thee for wear - ing the thorns on thy brow;
and say when the death - dew lies cold on my brow;
I'll sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow:

Chords: C7, F, Gm/B^b, Csus, C

if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
If ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
If ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

Chords: F, B^b, F, C7, F

Now Thank We All Our God

Text: Martin Rinkart • Music: Felix Mendelssohn • Public Domain

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Now Thank We All Our God'. It consists of six staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are as follows:

Now thank we all our God with
O All may praise this and all boun - teous to God God God through the
3 heart and hands and voic - es, Who
all our life be near - us, With
Fa - ther now be giv - en, The
6 won - drous things hath done, in whom His world re -
e - ver joy - ful hearts and bles - sed peace to
Son, and Him who reigns with them in high - est
9 joic - es; Who, from our moth - ers'
cheer - us; And keep us in His
heav - en, The one e - ter - nal
12 arms, hath blessed us on our way With
grace, and guide us when per - plexed. And
God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore; For
15 count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
free us from all ills, in this world and the next
thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

~

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Mar. 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.*

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

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.