



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 12, 2023



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."
And let the one who hears say, "Come."

And let the one who is thirsty come;
let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

Rejoice, The Lord Is King

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: John Darwall • Public Domain

Tenor

8 Re - joice the Lord is King: your Lord and King a -
Je - sus the sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and
His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and
He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub -
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall
8 dore! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing and tri - umph ev - er -
love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a -
heav'n; the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus
mit, and bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his
8 come, and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal
more. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I
bove. _____
giv'n. _____
feet. _____
home. _____
13 say re - - - - - joice!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Genesis 6:5

Yahweh¹ saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, we have loved other gods before you and have become their servants. We have not worshiped you in spirit and in truth. We have brought insult upon your reputation. We have not trusted you to give us rest. We have not honored others as they deserve. We have hated our neighbors. Our desires are all distorted and misplaced. We have taken for ourselves what did not belong to us. We have lied, slandered, and gossiped. We have coveted the good blessings you gave to others. O Lord, have mercy on us, for we have not kept your law. Forgive us for the sake of your Son, our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Genesis 15:6

Abraham believed Yahweh, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

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.

¹ The ESV translates God’s personal name, Yahweh, as “the LORD” (small caps).

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Psalm 116

- 1 I love Yahweh, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.
- 2 Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
- 3 The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
- 4 Then I called on the name of Yahweh:
“O Yahweh, I pray, deliver my soul!”
- 5 Gracious is Yahweh, and righteous;
our God is merciful.
- 6 Yahweh preserves the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
- 7 Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for Yahweh has dealt bountifully with you.
- 8 For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling;
- 9 I will walk before Yahweh
in the land of the living.
- 10 I believed, even when I spoke:
“I am greatly afflicted”;
- 11 I said in my alarm,
“All mankind are liars.”
- 12 What shall I render to Yahweh
for all his benefits to me?
- 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of Yahweh,
- 14 I will pay my vows to Yahweh
in the presence of all his people.
- 15 Precious in the sight of Yahweh
is the death of his saints.
- 16 O Yahweh, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
You have loosed my bonds.
- 17 I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of Yahweh.
- 18 I will pay my vows to Yahweh
in the presence of all his people,

19 in the courts of the house of Yahweh,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise Yahweh!

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...

O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:
Particularly for our sister churches in the Pacific Northwest Presbytery.

O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:
We pray for those who do not know you; we pray that your gospel would run in our city; we pray that your fame and glory would spread here and throughout the world.

O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:
Please give our President humility, wisdom, strength and trust in you. Please bless our Governor and our Mayor; please bring prosperity and peace to our city through your gospel.

O Lord, we cry out to you for the poor and suffering of our community:
We pray for those who are living on the streets. We pray for those who are discouraged and suffering in depression. We pray for those who are struggling financially. We pray for those who are sick or facing imminent death and for those who care for them.

O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs...
(Silent prayer)

All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying:

*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.*

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Gal. 2:20

C G C F F/C C

1. Je - sus loves me, this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2. Je - sus loves me, he who died, heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3. Je - sus loves me, loves me still, though I'm ver - y weak and ill;
 4. Je - sus loves me, he will stay close be - side me all the way:

G C F C C/G G⁷ C

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 from his shin - ing throne on high comes to watch me where I lie.
 if I love him, when I die he will take me home on high.

REFRAIN F C G

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

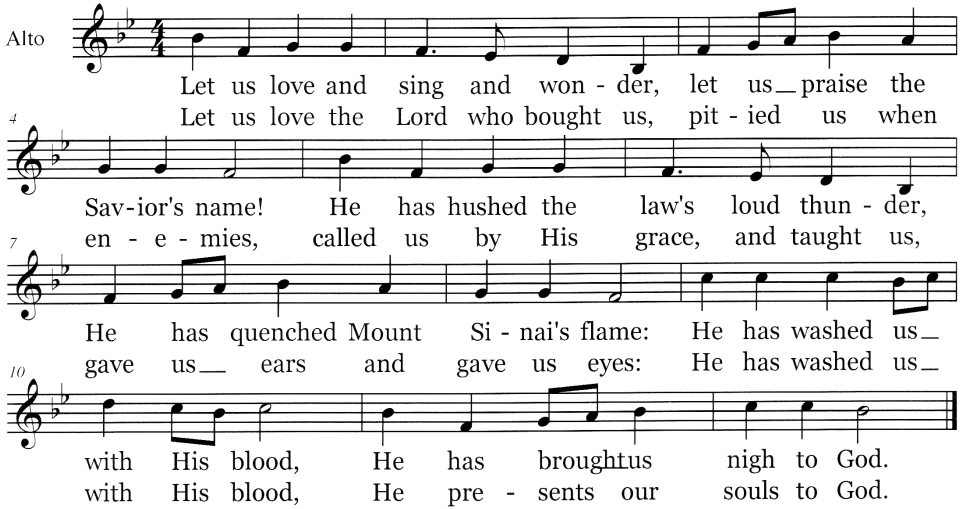
C F C/G G⁷ C 7

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder

Text: John Newton • Music: *Darmstadt Gesangbuch*

Alto



Let us love and sing and won - der, let us_ praise the
Let us love the Lord who bought us, pit - ied us when
Sav - ior's name! He has hushed the law's loud thun - der,
en - e - mies, called us by His grace, and taught us,
He has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame: He has washed us_
gave us_ ears and gave us eyes: He has washed us_
with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.
with His blood, He pre - sents our souls to God.

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 14:1-13

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard about the fame of Jesus, ² and he said to his servants, “This is John the Baptist. He has been raised from the dead; that is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.” ³ For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, ⁴ because John had been saying to him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.” ⁵ And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet. ⁶ But when Herod’s birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company and pleased Herod, ⁷ so that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. ⁸ Prompted by her mother, she said, “Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter.” ⁹ And the king was sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he commanded it to be given. ¹⁰ He sent and had John beheaded in the prison, ¹¹ and his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. ¹² And his disciples came and took the body and buried it, and they went and told Jesus.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “The Death of John the Baptist” (Rev. Eric Costa)

“Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, ‘So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.’” (1 Kings 19:1-2)

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me... Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of Yahweh comes.” (Malachi 3:1; 4:5)

“John is Elijah who is to come.” (Matthew 11:14)

“Precious in the sight of Yahweh is the death of his saints.” (Psalm 116:15)

“The story of John’s death... helps us understand the kind of world into which Jesus has come and to which he is an alternative.” (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.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

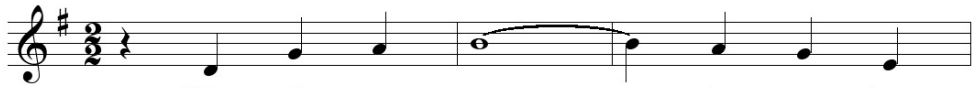
(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after 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.

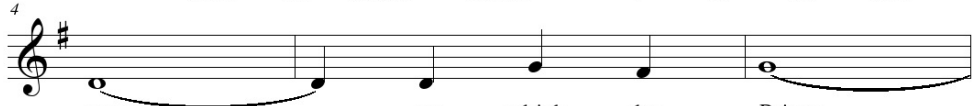
² Or, “universal.”

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: Michael James • ©1986 Word Music, LLC



When I sur - vey _____ the won - drous
For - bid it Lord, _____ that I should
See, from His head, _____ His hands, His
Were the whole realm _____ of na - ture



cross _____ on which the Prince _____
boast, _____ save in the death _____
feet, _____ sor - row and love _____
mine, _____ that were a pre -



— of glo - ry _____ died, _____ my rich - est
— of Christ my God; _____ All the vain
— flow ming - led down. _____ Did e'er such
— sent far too small; _____ Love so a -



gain _____ I count but _____ loss, _____
things _____ that charm me _____ most, _____
love _____ and sor - row _____ meet, _____
maz - - - ing, so di - vine, _____



— and pour con - tempt _____ on all my _____ pride.
— I sac - ri - rice _____ them to His _____ blood.
— or thorns com - pose _____ so rich a _____ crown?
— de - mands my soul, _____ my life, my _____ all.

O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Carl Glaser • Public Domain

Tenor

The image shows a musical score for a Tenor part. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 12/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 12/8 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter). The lyrics are: "O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my". The second staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 12/8 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter). The lyrics are: "great Re-deem - er's praise, the glo-ries of my". The third staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 12/8 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter). The lyrics are: "God and King, the tri-umphs of his". The fourth staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 12/8 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter). The lyrics are: "grace.".

O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
great Re-deem - er's praise, the glo-ries of my
God and King, the tri-umphs of his
grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy!

BENEDICTION • Jude 1-2

To those who are called,
beloved in God the Father
and kept for Jesus Christ:

May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

~

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

Church Potluck Lunch • Next Sunday (Mar. 19) after Worship, in the fellowship hall. Please bring something to share.

Good Friday Service • 7pm Friday, April 7.

Easter Breakfast • 8:30am Sunday, April 9.

Church Campout • Aug. 18-20 at Detroit Lake. The church has reserved eight campsites, and the cost is \$50 per site. To register, and for more info, contact Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com).

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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ascensionpc.org



(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.