



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 19, 2023



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • 1 Chronicles 16:8-11

Oh give thanks to Yahweh¹; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek Yahweh rejoice!

Seek Yahweh and his strength; seek his presence continually!

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

In Christ Alone

Text & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend • ©2001 Thankyou Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'In Christ Alone'. It is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The score consists of a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with line numbers 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 14 indicating the start of new lines of music. The lyrics are: 'In Christ a-lone my hope is found, He is my In Christ a-lone, who took on flesh, ful-ness of There in the ground His bo-dy lay, light of the light, my strength, my song; This Cor-ner-God in help-less babe! This gift of world by dark-ness slain: Then burst-ing stone, this so-lid ground. firm through the love and right-eous-ness, scorned by the forth in glor-ious day up from the fier-cest drought and storm. What heights of ones he came to save: 'Till on that grave He rose a-gain! And as He love, what depths of peace when fears are cross as Je-sus died, the wrath of stands in vic-to-ry sin's curse has stilled, when striv-ings cease! My com-fort-er, my all in God was sa-tis-fied. For ev-'ry sin on Him was lost its grip on me, for I am His and He is all, here in the love of Christ I stand. laid; here in the death of Christ I live. mine, bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.'

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;
'till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Exodus 20:2-3

"I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me."

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father in heaven, we confess that we have doubted your gracious love. Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting your freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our own agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Exodus 34:6-7

Yahweh passed before [Moses] and proclaimed, "Yahweh, Yahweh, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty."

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

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 • 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. And Elisha said, "Give to the men, that they may eat." ⁴³ But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred men?" So he repeated, "Give them to the men, that they may eat, for thus says Yahweh, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴ So he set it before them. And they ate and had some left, according to the word of 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...

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

And we pray as our Savior taught us, 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.

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need (Psalm 23)

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: North American Traditional • Public Domain

1 My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name; ___
2 When through the shades of death I walk, your pre - sence is my stay; ___
3 Your sure pro - vi - sions, gra - cious God at - tend me all my days; ___

in pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the li - ving stream. ___
one word of your sup - por - ting breath drives all my fears a - way. ___
oh, may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise. ___

You bring my wand' - ring spi - rit back, when I for - sake your ways; ___
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread; ___
Here would I find a set - tled rest, while o - thers go and come; ___

you lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bles - sings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.
no more a stran - ger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

Peace, Perfect Peace

Text: Edward H. Bickersteth (1875)

Music: Matthew H. Curl (2008) • Used by Permission

Tenor

The image shows a musical score for a Tenor part. It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 4, 8, 12, 17, 21, 26, and 30. The lyrics are: 'Peace, per-fect peace, in this dark world of Peace, per-fect peace, with sor-rows surg-ing sin, the blood of Je-sus whis-pers peace with-round, on Je-sus' bo-som naught but calm is in. Peace, perfect peace, by throng-ing du-ties found. Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far a-pressed, to do the will of Je-sus, this is rest. way, in Je-sus' keep-ing we are safe and they. It is e-nough: earth's strug-gles soon shall cease, when Je-sus calls us to heaven's per-fect peace. It is e-nough: earth's strug-gles soon shall cease, when Je-sus calls us home to a per-fect peace.'

4
8
12
17
21
26
30

Peace, per-fect peace, in this dark world of
Peace, per-fect peace, with sor-rows surg-ing
sin, the blood of Je-sus whis-pers peace with -
round, on Je-sus' bo-som naught but calm is
in. Peace, perfect peace, by throng-ing du-ties
found. Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far a -
pressed, to do the will of Je-sus, this is rest. _____
way, in Je-sus' keep-ing we are safe and they. _____
It is e - nough: earth's strug-gles soon shall cease, when
Je-sus calls us to heaven's per-fect peace. It is e -
nough: earth's strug-gles soon shall cease, when Je-sus calls us
home to a per - fect peace.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown,
Jesus we know, and he is on the throne.

Peace, perfect peace, death shadows us and ours,
Jesus has vanquished death and all its pow'rs.

*It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease,
when Jesus calls us to heaven's perfect peace.*

*It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease,
when Jesus calls us home to a perfect peace.*

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • "A Feast In The Desert" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"He commanded the skies above
and opened the doors of heaven,
and he rained down on them manna to eat
and gave them the grain of heaven.
Man ate of the bread of the angels;
he sent them food in abundance." (Psalm 78:23-25)

"Jesus is the one who comes to make the messianic feast. He takes the resources, pitifully inadequate, provided by his disciples. He multiplies them over and over again, and there is more left over at the end than there was at the beginning." (Michael Green)





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • Psalm 23

What do you believe about the Lord Jesus, the Good Shepherd?

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. 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].)

At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Text: Robert Campbell • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor



At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our vic - to - rious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
flow - ing from His pierc - ed side;
Praise we Him whose love di - vine
gives His sa - cred blood for wine,
gives His bod - y for the feast,
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed: paschal victim, paschal bread.
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light.
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit ever be.

The Lamb Has Overcome

Music and Lyrics: Luke Morton • ©2011 Cardiphonia Music

The Lamb has ov - er - come, the
Lamb has ov - er - come; the bat - tle's done and the
vic-to-ry is won, for the Lamb has ov - er - come! No
grave could hold Him down, no grave could hold Him
down; up from the ground, "He is
ri-sen!" was the sound, no grave could hold Him down.
At God's right hand is He, at
God's right hand is He; our per - fect plea as He
lives to in-ter-cede, at God's right hand is He! Wor-thy
is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry be un - to His
name! Wor-thy is the Lamb who was slain, glo-ry
be un - to His name!

The table now is spread, the table now is spread;
the wine and bread, broken body and blood shed, the table now is spread.
The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near;
he shall appear and wipe away each tear, the day is drawing near!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name!
(Repeat Chorus)

BENEDICTION • Numbers 6:24-26

Yahweh bless you and keep you;
Yahweh make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
Yahweh lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

~

Church Potluck Lunch • 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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(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.