



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 26, 2023



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • 1 Chronicles 16:23-25

Sing to Yahweh¹, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is Yahweh, and greatly to be praised,
and he is to be held in awe above all gods.

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

As We Walk Along Beside You

Text: Michael A. Perry (Luke 24)

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



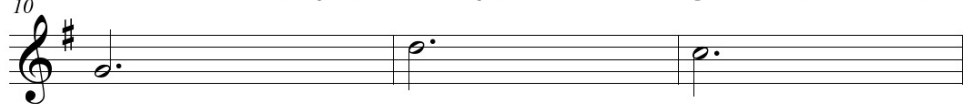
As we walk a - long be - side you and we hear you
As we ask that you stay with us, and we watch what
As we reach for you be - liev - ing and we go to



4 speak of mer - cy then it seems our hearts are burn - ing
you are do - ing then our eyes be - gin to o - pen,
love and serve you, then our lives will be pro-claim-ing,



7 for we find you in the shar - ing of _____ the
for we see you in the break - ing of _____ the
that we know you in your ris - ing from _____ the



10 word. A - - - le - - -
bread. _____
dead. _____



13 lu _____ ia. _____ A -



16 le - - lu - ia. _____

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Psalm 32:1-4

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom Yahweh counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to Yahweh,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

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 65:5-8

- 5 By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;
- 6 the one who by his strength established the mountains,
being girded with might;
- 7 who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples,
- 8 so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.
You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

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.

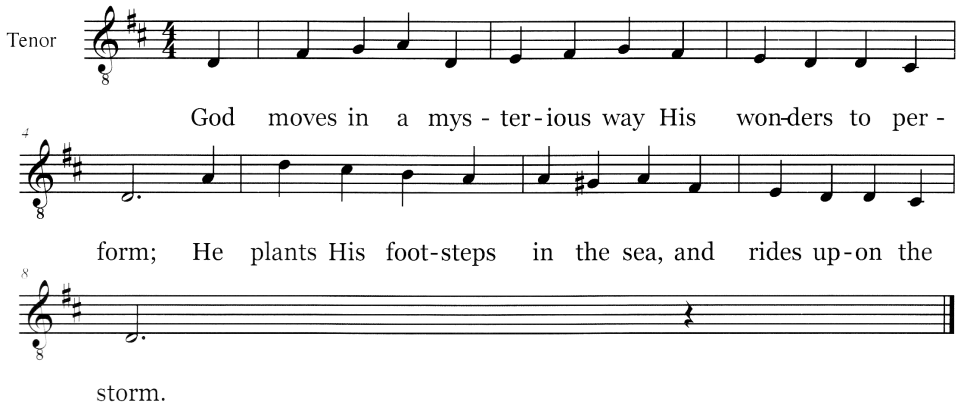
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

God Moves In A Mysterious Way

Text: William Cowper • Music: Scottish Psalter, 1615 • Public Domain

Tenor



God moves in a mys - ter - ious way His won - ders to per -
form; He plants His foot - steps in the sea, and rides up - on the
storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs, and works his sovereign will.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust him for his grace;
behind a frowning providence he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

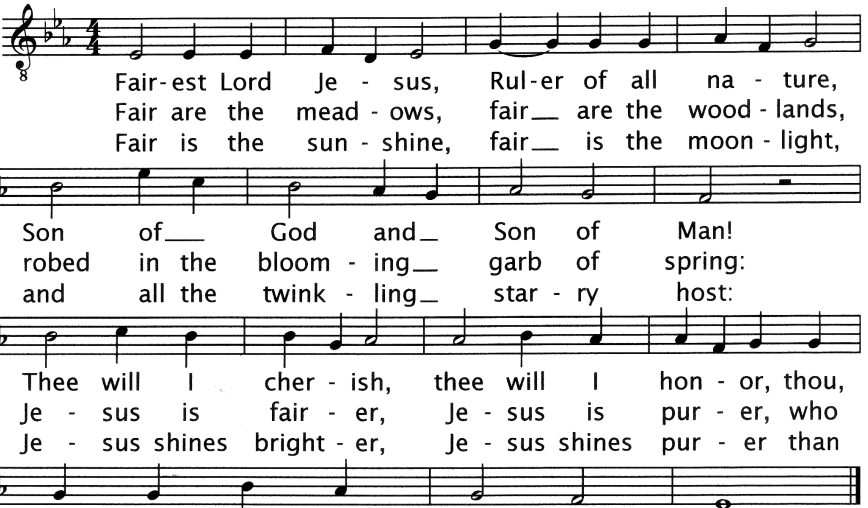
Amen!

Fairest Lord Jesus

Text: *Münster Gesangbuch* (Anonymous German Hymn, 1677)

Music: Silesian Folk Song (1842) • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Fair-est Lord Je - sus, Rul-er of all na - ture,
Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,

5
8 Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring:
and all the twink - ling star - ry host:

9
8 Thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or, thou,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, who
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than

13
8 my souls glo - ry, joy, and crown.
makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
all the an - gels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

SERMON • "Walking on the Sea" (Rev. Eric Costa)

"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is Yahweh your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

"He sent from on high, he took me;
he drew me out of many waters." (Psalm 18:6)

"Your way was through the sea,
your path through the great waters;
yet your footprints were unseen." (Psalm 77:19)

"You rule the raging of the sea;
when its waves rise, you still them." (Psalm 89:9)

"I, Yahweh your God,
hold your right hand;
it is I who say to you, "Fear not,
I am the one who helps you." (Isaiah 41:13)

"His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire." (2 Peter 1:3-4)

"Peter does not begin to sink and then become frightened, but he becomes frightened and so he begins to sink. Losing sight of Jesus means that Peter, like all of us, cannot help but become frightened, which means we cannot survive. Jesus, as he has so often done, stretches out his hand and saves him." (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.”

Be Thou My Vision

Text: Unknown, 8th Century

Music: *Slane* (Irish Folk Tune) • Public Domain



Be thou my vis - ion, O Lord of my
Be thou my wis - dom and thou my true
Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my
Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty
High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry



heart, naught be all else to me
word; I ev - er with thee and
fight; be thou my dig - ni - ty,
praise; thou mine in - her - i - tance,
won, may I reach heav - en's joys,



save that thou art, thou my best
thou with me, Lord; thou my great
thou my de - light, thou my soul's
now and al - ways: thou and thou
O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my



thought by day or by night
Fa - ther, I thy true son;
shel - ter, thou my high tow'r;
on - ly, first in my heart,
own heart, what ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

God Of My Life

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800)

Music: Benj Pocta, Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy

©2007 Red Mountain Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'God Of My Life'. It consists of eight staves of music, each with a vocal line and lyrics underneath. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'God of my life to Thee I call; Friend of the friend-less and the faint, That were a grief I could not bear, Af - flict - ed at Thy feet I fall; where should I lodge my deep com - plaint? didst Thou not hear and an - swer prayer; When the great wa - ter floods pre - - vail, Where but with Thee whose o - pen door, But a prayer hear - ing, an - swer - ing God, Leave not my tremb - ling heart to fail. In - vites the help - less and the poor? sup - ports me un - der ev - 'ry load. Poor though I am, des - pised, for - got, Yet God, my God, for - gets me not; And he is safe, and must suc - ceed, for whom, the Lord is sure to plead.'

God of my life to Thee I call;
Friend of the friend-less and the faint,
That were a grief I could not bear,
Af - flict - ed at Thy feet I fall;
where should I lodge my deep com - plaint?
didst Thou not hear and an - swer prayer;
When the great wa - ter floods pre - - vail,
Where but with Thee whose o - pen door,
But a prayer hear - ing, an - swer - ing God,
Leave not my tremb - ling heart to fail.
In - vites the help - less and the poor?
sup - ports me un - der ev - 'ry load.
Poor though I am, des - pised, for -
got, Yet God, my God, for - gets me not;
And he is safe, and must suc - ceed, for whom, the
Lord is sure to plead.

BENEDICTION • 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

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

Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., Apr. 1 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro). We'll share a potluck breakfast together, then discuss "the Lord's Table" as an element of our liturgy. Contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Apr. 2) 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.

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

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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.