ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JUNE 18, 2023



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 64:10

Let the righteous one rejoice in Yahweh¹ and take refuge in him! Let all the upright in heart exult!

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



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 • Isaiah 50:7-9a

The Lord Yahweh helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord Yahweh helps me; who will declare me guilty?

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 8:31, 33-34

If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who is interceding for us.

May the peace of Christ be with you. *And also with you!*

OFFERING • Psalm 96:8

Ascribe to Yahweh the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

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.

GOSPEL READING • John 3:16-21

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray...

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem, may your church be a sign of hope and glory.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly risen from the dead, our Alpha and Omega, may the whole world live in peace and justice, according to your will.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of promise, fulfill the needs and desires of those who are sick or sorrowful. *Lord, have mercy.*

All powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace.

Teach us to proclaim the good news of your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

God, teach us to pray as your Son taught his disciples, 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.

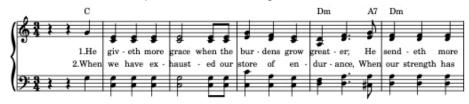
And Can It Be?

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Thomas Campbell • Public Domain



He Giveth More Grace

Text: Annie Johnson Flint • Music: Hubert Mitchell © 1941; renewed 1969 by Lillenas Publishing











GOSPEL READING • Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

SERMON • "The Apostles' Creed: 'And He Will Come Again To Judge The Living And The Dead'" (Rev. Pat Roach)

Rev. Pat Roach is a graduate of Texas A&M University and Westminster Seminary. He has served as Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Campus Minister at Rice University (1999-2007), planted Hope PCA in Portland (2007-2014), and is now the Western U.S. Area Coordinator for RUF. He and his wife, Ashley, have three children: Mary, Anna, and James.



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."

Jesus Paid It All









WORDS: Elvina M. Hall, 1865. MUSIC: "All to Christ"; John T. Grape, 1868. Public Domain.

Jesus Lives And So Shall I

Text: Christian F. Gellert • Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor le-sus lives, and so shall ١, death, thy sting is His king-dom les-sus lives, and reians su - preme; and. gone He who deigned for me die, for – ev er. to be with Him. still re-main - ing. L shall al so lives. the bands of death to sev - er. He shall raise me liv – er reign-ing. God has prom-ised er ing ev – ev 10 from the dust: Je-sus is my hope and He lives! He trust!___ be Je-sus is my hope and it must, trust!___ 15 lives! Je – sus lives!___ He lives! He lives! and so shall 21 1!

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict'ry o'er my passions giving, I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living. Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus)

Jesus lives, I know full well, naught from him my heart can sever, life nor death, nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, henceforth forever. None of all his saints is lost: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus)

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory. Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee; thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is my hope and trust!

(Chorus x2)

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

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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).

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 (nwcpnetwork.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 offe	ering, or hand it to the Pastor.)
Name(s)	 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.
Email / Phone	[] Please use this info for the photo directory.