



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • OCTOBER 8, 2023



THE WORD



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 100**

Make a joyful noise to Yahweh<sup>1</sup>, all the earth!

Serve Yahweh with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that Yahweh, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For Yahweh is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

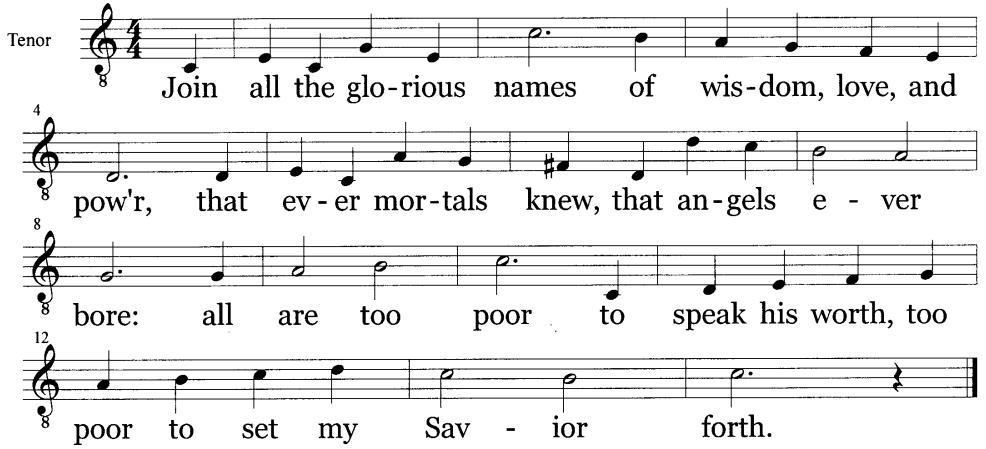
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<sup>1</sup> The ESV translates God's personal name, Yahweh, as "the LORD" (small caps).

# Join All The Glorious Names

Text: Issac Watts • Music: John Darwall • Public Domain

Tenor



Join all the glo-rious names of wis-dom, love, and  
pow'r, that ev-er mor-tals knew, that an-gels e-ver  
bore: all are too poor to speak his worth, too  
poor to set my Sav-ior forth.

Great Prophet of my God, my tongue would bless thy Name,  
by thee the joyful news of our salvation came,  
the joyful news of sin forgiv'n, of hell subdued, and peace with heav'n.

Jesus, my great High Priest, offered his blood, and died;  
my guilty conscience seeks no sacrifice beside:  
his pow'rful blood did once atone, and now it pleads before the throne.

Thou art my Counselor, my pattern, and my Guide,  
and thou my shepherd art; O keep me near thy side;  
nor let my feet e'er turn astray to wander in the crooked way.

My Savior and my Lord, my Conqueror and my King,  
thy scepter and thy sword, thy reigning grace I sing:  
thine is the power; behold I sit in willing bonds beneath thy feet.

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 3:10-12**

As it is written:

“None is righteous, no, not one;  
no one understands;  
no one seeks for God.

All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;  
no one does good,  
not even one.”

## **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 • Romans 5:1**

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Philippians 4:11-13, 19-20**

I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me... And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

## 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 • Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18-25

1:26 God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it..."

...

2:18 Yahweh God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." <sup>19</sup> Now out of the ground Yahweh God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. <sup>21</sup> So Yahweh God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> And the rib that Yahweh God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called Woman,  
because she was taken out of Man."

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

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...

Our Father in heaven, you forgive because you are holy.  
You gave up your Son to the shame and death of the cross  
to atone for our sins.

*Thank you, Jesus, for the sacrifice you made on our behalf.*

*Thank you for reconciling us to God.*

*Thank you for giving us the privilege of relating to you  
in the ministry of reconciliation.*

You have said that the one who is forgiven much loves much.

*We do not deserve your love, yet you give it to us freely.*

*Your grace is glorious.*

*We praise you for taking our sins upon yourself,  
and for clothing us in your own righteousness.*

*We love you for forgiving all our debts.*

Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may forgive one another  
with the same holy and forgiving love we have received from you.

*We adore you and long to imitate you.*

*We want our life together in the church  
to be filled with your glorious mercy and grace.*

*Make us new and radiant in your image.*

*Others have sinned against you in the wrong they have done to us—  
make it our divine joy to forgive them, even though it hurts.*

*Help us to pursue true reconciliation and peace  
in the fellowship of the Spirit.*

*Strengthen us to proclaim the good news of your forgiveness  
to the ends of the earth,*

*for the glory of Christ,*

*in whose name we pray. Amen.*

# Come, Holy Ghost

Text: Rhabanus Maurus (A.D. 776-856); chorus by Ray Mills (2005)

Music: Bruce Benedict & Ray Mills

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1  
Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest,  
5 O com - fort - er, to Thee we cry,  
and in our hearts take up Thy rest;  
9 Thou heav'n - ly gift of God most high;  
14 Come with Thy grace and heav'n-ly aid to fill our  
Thou fount of life, and fire of love, and sweet an -  
18 hearts which Thou hast made, to fill our  
noint - ing from a - bove, and sweet a -  
23 hearts which Thou hast made. Be not a -  
noint - ting from a - bove.  
fraid, where you go there I am with you.

O Holy Ghost, through thee alone know we the Father and the Son;  
be this our firm, unchanging creed, that thou dost from them both proceed,  
that thou dost from them both proceed.

*(Chorus x2)*

Praise we the Lord, Father and Son, and Holy Spirit with them one;  
and may the Son on us bestow all gifts that from the Spirit flow,  
all gifts that from the Spirit flow.

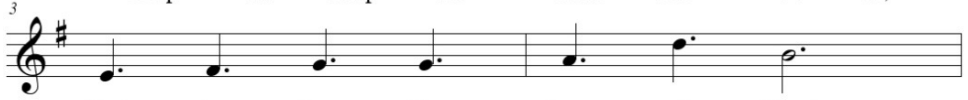
*(Chorus x2)*

# Come, Oh Come, O Quickening Spirit

Text and Music: Heinrich Held (1620-1659), arr. Chip Ueltschey



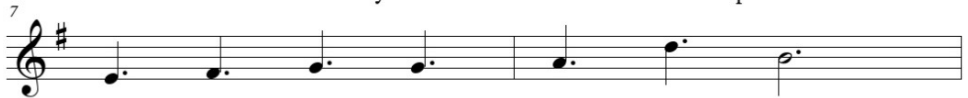
Come, oh come, O quick - 'ning Spi - rit,  
On - ly that which you de - sire  
Bless - ed Spi - rit, still re - new - ing  
Help us keep the faith for - ev - er;



God be - fore the dawn of time!  
be our ob - ject; with your hand  
all who dwell up - on the earth,  
let not Sa - tan, death, or shame



Fire our hearts with ho - ly ar - dor,  
lead our ev - 'ry thought and ac - tion,  
when the e - vil one as - sails us  
draw us from you or de - prive us



bles - sed Com - for - ter sub - lime!  
let us be at your com - mand.  
help us prove our heav'n - ly birth;  
of the hon - or of your name.



Let your ra - diance fill our night,  
All our sin - ful - ness e - raise  
Arm us with your might - y sword  
When the foe would lure us hence,



turn - ing dark - ness in - to light.  
with the in - crease of your grace.  
in the le - gions of the Lord.  
be, O God, our sure de - fense.

## **GOSPEL READING • Matthew 19:1-12**

Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. <sup>2</sup> And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

<sup>3</sup> And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" <sup>4</sup> He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup> and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." <sup>7</sup> They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" <sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. <sup>9</sup> And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

<sup>10</sup> The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." <sup>11</sup> But he said to them, "Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. <sup>12</sup> For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

## **SERMON • "Receiving What Is Given" (Rev. Eric Costa)**

"Yahweh was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. 'For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says Yahweh, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says Yahweh of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.'" (Malachi 2:14-16)

"Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another.

"To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

"To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband (but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife." (1 Corinthians 7:6-11)

"A man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." (Ephesians 5:31-33)





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.<sup>1</sup> 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 catholic<sup>2</sup> 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].)

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Or, “universal.”

# In Mercy Broken

Lyric: Reginald Heber • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Bread of the world, in mer - cy bro -  
5 Look on the heart by sor - row bro -  
9 ken Wine of the  
8 ken Look on the  
13 soul, in mer - cy shed  
8 tears by sin - ners shed  
18 By whom the words of life were spo - ken,  
8 And be thy feast to us the to - ken  
22 And in whose death our sins are  
8 That by thy grace our souls are  
26 dead.  
8 fed.  
31 ia! Al - le - lu -  
8 ia!

# O Lord, By Grace Delivered

Text: Psalm 30 (1912 Psalter)

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

O Lord, by grace de - liv - ered, I  
In pros - p'rous days I boast - ed: un -  
now with songs ex - tol; my foes you have not  
moved I shall re - main; for Lord, by your good  
suf - fered to glo - ry o'er my fall. O Lord, my God, I  
fa - vor my cause you did main - tain; I soon was sor - ley  
sought you, and you did heal and save; - you,  
trou - bled, for you did hide your face; I  
Lord, from death did ran - som and keep me from the  
cried to you Je - ho - vah, I sought Je - ho - vah's  
grave. O Lord, by grace de - li - - vered! - I  
grace.  
now with songs ex - tol! His ho - ly name re -  
mem - ber! You saints, Je - ho - vah praise!

What profit if I perish, if life you do not spare?  
Shall dust repeat your praises, shall it your truth declare?  
O Lord, on me have mercy, and my petition hear;  
that you may be my helper, in mercy, Lord, appear.

*(Chorus)*

My grief is turned to gladness, to you my thanks I raise,  
who has removed my sorrow and girded me with praise;  
and now, no longer silent, my heart your praise will sing;  
O Lord, my God forever, my thanks to you I bring.

*(Chorus)*

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

### Midweek Studies

- 8:15am Tue. Men's Study of the Book of Judges, at Longbottom Coffee. Contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).
- Wed. morning Beaverton-area Men's Study, details TBA. Contact: Joe Pope (pope.joe@gmail.com).
- 1:30pm Wed. Women's Study of *Jesus through the Eyes of Women*, by Rebecca McLaughlin. Contact: Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@gmail.com).
- 7pm Thu. Women's Study of *Jesus through the Eyes of Women*, by Rebecca McLaughlin. Contact: Holly McGarry (hollyklier8@gmail.com).

**Youth Group** • We plan to start our weekly (Wednesday evening) meeting again for 6th through 12th graders on Wed., Oct. 18. Contact: Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com).

**"Last Sunday" Home Group** • Sun., Oct. 29, after Worship. We'll meet in someone's home for lunch and a discussion of Tim Keller's book, *Forgive* (chapters 2-4).

**Women's Retreat** • Nov. 3-5 (Fri. - Sun.) in Lincoln City. The cost is \$75—make checks payable to Ascension with "women's retreat" in the memo line. Contact: Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@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.