



ASCENSION  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • OCTOBER 29, 2023  
REFORMATION SUNDAY



**CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 107:1-2**

Oh give thanks to Yahweh<sup>1</sup>, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever!  
Let the redeemed of Yahweh say so,  
whom he has redeemed from trouble.

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

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text & Music: Martin Luther (1529) • Public Domain

Alto

A might - y for - tress is our God, a  
bul-wark nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a -  
mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For  
still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his  
craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cru - el  
hate, on earth is not his e - qual.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual." The score ends with a double bar line.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing;  
dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth, his Name, from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us:  
the Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,  
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth:  
let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,  
his kingdom is forever.

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

He is risen!

*He is risen indeed!*

Let us pray...

## **CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 Corinthians 6:9-10**

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolators, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and those when I have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.*

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Corinthians 6:11**

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you!*

## **OFFERING • Exodus 23:19**

The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of Yahweh your God.

## **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 146

- 1 Praise Yahweh!  
Praise Yahweh, O my soul!
- 2 I will praise Yahweh as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes,  
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- 4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;  
on that very day his plans perish.
- 5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in Yahweh his God,
- 6 who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them,  
who keeps faith forever;
- 7 who executes justice for the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry.
- Yahweh sets the prisoners free;
- 8 Yahweh opens the eyes of the blind.  
Yahweh lifts up those who are bowed down;  
Yahweh loves the righteous.
- 9 Yahweh watches over the sojourners;  
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
- 10 Yahweh will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, to all generations.  
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...

(From Ephesians 3:14-21)

We bow our knees before you, our Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,  
*that according to the riches of your glory  
you may grant us to be strengthened with power  
through your Spirit in our inner being,*

so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith—  
*that we, being rooted and grounded in love,  
may have strength to comprehend with all the saints  
what is the breadth and length and height and depth,  
and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,  
that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Now to you who are able to do far more abundantly  
than all that we ask or think,  
according to the power at work within us,  
*to you be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus  
throughout all generations, forever and ever.*  
*Amen.*

# For All The Saints

*Unison*

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
3. O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,  
4. The golden evening brightens in the west;  
5. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,

who thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,  
thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;  
fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old,  
the soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors comes their rest;  
the saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray;  
through gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,

thy name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.  
thou, in the dark - ness dread, their one true light.  
and win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold.  
the sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.  
the King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.  
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

# The Church's One Foundation

Text: Samuel J. Stone • Music: Samuel S. Wesley • Public Domain

Tenor

The church - 's one foun - da - tion is  
E - - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet  
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men  
8 Je - sus Christ, her Lord; she is His new cre - a - tion by  
one o'er all the earth, her char - ter of sal - va - tion one  
7 see her sore op - pressed, by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by  
8 wa - ter and the Word: from heav'n He came and  
Lord, one faith, one birth; one ho - ly name she  
10 her - e - sies dis - tressed, yet saints their watch are  
8 sought her to be His ho - ly bride; with  
bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food, and  
13 keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?" and  
8 His own blood He bought her, and for her life he  
to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en -  
16 soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of  
8 died.  
died.  
song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,  
to guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;  
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,  
against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

## **GOSPEL READING • Matthew 20:17-34**

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, <sup>18</sup> “See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death <sup>19</sup> and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.”

<sup>20</sup> Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. <sup>21</sup> And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” <sup>24</sup> And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. <sup>25</sup> But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup> It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup> and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, <sup>28</sup> even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

<sup>29</sup> And as they went out of Jericho, a great crowd followed him. <sup>30</sup> And behold, there were two blind men sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!” <sup>31</sup> The crowd rebuked them, telling them to be silent, but they cried out all the more, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!” <sup>32</sup> And stopping, Jesus called them and said, “What do you want me to do for you?” <sup>33</sup> They said to him, “Lord, let our eyes be opened.” <sup>34</sup> And Jesus in pity touched their eyes, and immediately they recovered their sight and followed him.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

## **SERMON • “Seeing True Greatness” (Rev. Eric Costa)**

“The haughtiness of man shall be humbled,  
and the lofty pride of men shall be brought low,  
and Yahweh alone will be exalted in that day.” (Isaiah 2:17)





THE UPPER ROOM



**CONFESSION OF FAITH • Philippians 2:6-11**

What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

*I believe that Jesus Christ, being God, made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born a man. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 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].)

## From The Depths Of Woe (Psalm 130)

Text: Martin Luther (Based on Psalm 130) • Music: ©1997 Christopher Miner

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: 'From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the voice of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord turn a gra - cious ear to me and hear my sup - pli - ca - tion. If Thou in - i - qui - ties dost mark, our se - cret sins and mis - deeds dark, O who shall stand be - fore Thee? O who shall stand be - fore Thee?' The score includes bar numbers 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 16. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line.

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the  
voice of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord  
turn a gra - cious ear to me and hear  
my sup - pli - ca - tion. If Thou in - i - qui - ties dost  
mark, our se - cret sins and mis - deeds dark, O who  
shall stand be - fore Thee?  
O who shall stand be - fore Thee?

To wash away the crimson stain grace, grace alone availeth;  
Our works, alas! are all in vain, in much the best life faileth;  
No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,  
And live alone by mercy.

Therefore my trust is in the Lord and not in my own merit;  
On him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit:  
His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support:  
I wait for it with patience.

And though I wait the whole night through and till the dawn appeareth,  
My heart still trusteth in his might, it doubteth not nor feareth:  
Do thus, O you of Israel's seed, you of the Spirit born indeed;  
And wait till God appeareth.

Though great our sins and sore our woes, his grace much more aboundeth;  
His helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth.  
Our shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free  
From all their sin and sorrow.

# Now Thank We All Our God

Text: Martin Rinkart • Music: Felix Mendelssohn • Public Domain

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Now Thank We All Our God'. It consists of six staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are as follows:

Now thank we all our God with  
O All may praise this and all boun - teous to God God God through the  
3 heart and hands and voic - es, Who  
all our life be near - us, With  
Fa - ther now be giv - en, The  
6 won - drous things hath done, in whom His world re -  
e - ver joy - ful hearts and bles - sed peace to  
Son, and Him who reigns with them in high - est  
9 joic - es; Who, from our moth - ers'  
cheer - us; And keep us in His  
heav - en, The one e - ter - nal  
12 arms, hath blessed us on our way With  
grace, and guide us when per - plexed. And  
God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore; For  
15 count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
free us from all ills, in this world and the next  
thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

## 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.

~

**“Last Sunday” Home Group** • Today (Oct. 29) after Worship, instead of Sunday School. We’ll meet at the home of Joe & Cindy Pope (15953 SW Tuscany, Tigard) for lunch and a discussion of Tim Keller’s book, *Forgive* (chapters 2-4). Chili will be provided—please bring a side or dessert to share.

### Midweek Studies

- 8:15am Tue. men’s study of the Book of Judges, at Longbottom Coffee.  
Contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com).
- 6:30am Wed. men’s study, at the Starbucks on Walker & 158th.  
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 (hollykiewer8@gmail.com).

**Youth Group** • 6:30pm to 8pm Wednesdays. Students in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us and to invite their friends. Contact: Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com).

**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).

### • PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Our Denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (pcanet.org)

Our Presbytery (pacificnorthwestpresbytery.com)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcnetwork.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.)

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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.