



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • JANUARY 28, 2024



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 2:3

Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.

To God Be The Glory

Text: Fanny Crosby • Music: William Doane • Public Domain

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done! So loved he the
2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood! To ev - 'ry be -
3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and

tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in.
tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus for - give - ness re - ceives.
great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

REFRAIN

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord,
praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther thro'

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

The musical score is written in G major and 3/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a steady bass line with chords in the right hand. The vocal line has three verses of lyrics. The score includes a refrain section. Chord symbols (G, D7, D, C, A7, G, D7, G, D, G, C, G, D7, G, G, D7, G, D, G, D7, G) are placed above the vocal line. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 1 Peter 1:18-19

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Father, relieve our consciences, now and in the hour of our death, from the terror of our guilt and the fear of your judgment. Let your peace come into our hearts that we may await your judgment with joy. Teach us, dear Father, not to trust or find comfort in our own merits or good works. But teach us to venture and resign ourselves faithfully and firmly to your infinite mercy. In the same manner, let us not lose courage because of our guilty and sinful lives. Let us regard your mercy as higher and broader and stronger than all our being. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Acts 2:44-45

All who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

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 • Deuteronomy 16:14-17

“You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. ¹⁵ For seven days you shall keep the feast to Yahweh your God at the place that Yahweh will choose, because Yahweh your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful.

¹⁶ “Three times a year all your males shall appear before Yahweh your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before Yahweh empty-handed. ¹⁷ Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of Yahweh your God that he has given you.”

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.

Thy Mercy, My God

Lyrics: John Stoker • Music: Sandra McCracken

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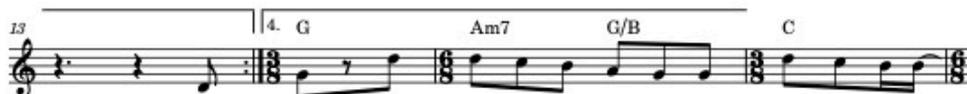
1. Thy mer - cy, my_ God, is the theme of my song, the
out thy sweet mer - cy I could_ not live here;
mer - cy is_ more than a match for my heart which
fath - er of_ mer - cies thy good - ness I own and the



joy of my_ heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy free grace a - lone from the first
Sin would re - duce me to ut - ter des - pair; but through thy free good - ness my spir
won - ders to_ feel its own hard - ness de - part; - dis - solved - by thy good - ness - I fall
cov - e - nant love of thy cruc - i - fied son; all praise to the spi - rit whose whis



— to the last hath won my af - fec - tions and bound_ my soul fast.
- its re - vive and he that first made me still keeps_ me a - live.
— to the ground and weep for the praise of the mer - cy I've found.
- per di - vine seals mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness



2. With mine. All praise to the spir - it whose whis - per di - vine
3. Thy
4. Great



— seals mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Text: Samuel Stennett • Music: Christopher Miner

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Tenor

8 On Jor-dan's stor - my banks I stand, and cast a wish - ful
4 eye; To Can-aan's fair and hap - py land, where my pos-se - sions
8 lie. O'er all those wide ex - ten - ded plains, shines
11 chil - ling winds or poi - son breath, can
8 one et - er - nal day; There God the Son_ for -
14 reach that health - ful shore; Where sick - ness, sor - row,
8 ev - er reigns, and scat-ters night a - way. I am bound, I am
18 pain and death, are felt and feared no more.
8 bound, I am bound for the prom-ised land!_ I am bound, I am
22 bound, I am bound for the prom - ised land!_ No

When I shall reach that happy place, I'll be forever blessed;
for I shall see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest.

(Chorus)

Filled with delight my raptured soul would here no longer stay;
though Jordan's waves around me roll, fearless I'd launch away.

(Chorus)

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 22:1-14

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³ and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’ ⁵ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷ The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ ¹⁰ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹² And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “The Royal Wedding Feast” (Rev. Eric Costa)



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.”

Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

Text: Martin Luther • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for
It was a strange and dread - ful strife when
Here the true pas - chal Lamb we see, whom
So let us keep the fes - ti - val to
Then let us feast this ho - ly day on

3
our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right
life and death con - tend - ed. The vic - tor - y re -
God so free - ly gave us. He died on the ac -
which the Lord in - vites us. Christ is Him - self the
6 Christ, the bread of hea - ven. The Word of grace has

hand He stands and brings us life from heav - en.
mained with life; the reign of death was end - ed.
curs - ed tree, so strong His love to save us.
joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.
9 purged a - way the old and e - vil leav - en.

There - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to God right
Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says His death has swal - lowed
See His blood now marks our door; faith points to it death
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine
12 Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our meat and

thank - ful - ly loud songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
up our death; its sting is lost for - ev - er.
pass - es o'er, and Sa - tan can - not harm us.
to our hearts; the night of sin is end - ed.
17 drink in - deed; Faith lives u - pon no oth - er!

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
23 lu - 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 • 1 Corinthians 1:3

Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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Lunch & Book Discussion • Join us after Worship at the home of Joe & Cindy Pope for our final discussion of Tim Keller's book, *Forgive* (chapters 8-11). Chili will be provided—please bring a side or dessert to share. (There will be no Sunday School today.)

Midweek Studies

- 8:15am Tue. men's study at Longbottom Coffee: the Book of Judges
Contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)
- 1:30pm Wed. women's study: the Book of Ruth
Contact: Cheryl Boden (wu.gardens@gmail.com)
- 6:30am Thu. men's study at the Starbucks on Walker & 158th: *Habits of the Household* (Earley)
Contact: Joe Pope (pope.joe@gmail.com)
- 7pm Thu. women's study of *Jesus through the Eyes of Women* (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).

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Feb. 4) we collect Alms, gifts of mercy that the deacons can 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.

Congregational Meeting • Sun., Feb. 4 after Worship (instead of Sunday School). All are welcome to join us for conversation about the 2024 budget and the process of officer nominations.

Men's Retreat • Feb. 23-25 on the Sandy River. The cost will be \$90. Contact: Rob Stevenson.

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).

Email Newsletter • Visit ascensionpc.org/newsletter to subscribe to weekly announcements.

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

Our Presbytery (pacificnorthwestpresbytery.com)

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.