

PUBLIC WORSHIP • MARCH 17, 2024

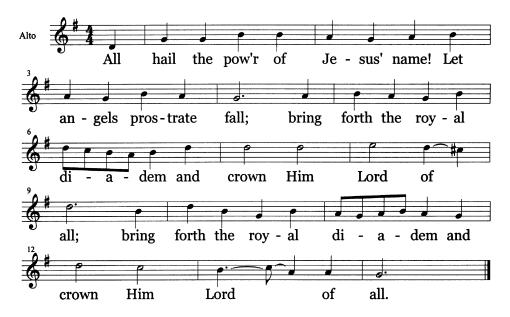


## CALL TO WORSHIP • Hosea 6:3

Let us know; let us press on to know Yahweh; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.

## All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

Text: Edward Perronet • Music: Oliver Holden • Public Domain



Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall, go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all. Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all. To him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.

O that, with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall, join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. Join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Let us pray...

## CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Genesis 6:5

Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Holy Trinity, God of love, glorious Creator and Lord, you made us in your image for relationships of holy love. But we have loved ourselves. You have generously given us every good gift, including the gift of our very selves. But we have pretended to be self-made. We have violated our relationship with you while convincing ourselves that there is nothing wrong with us. In reaching out to seize life apart from you, we have lost everything. We are undone. But our betrayal could not stop your love. You came into the world in the Person of your Son to seek and to save the lost. Save us from ourselves. And help us to find ourselves in the Beloved: forgiven, accepted, and renewed in your image. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Genesis 15:6**

Abraham believed Yahweh, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

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

# OFFERING • Ephesians 4:28; 5:2

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need... Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to 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 • Deuteronomy 6:1-16**

"Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that Yahweh your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, <sup>2</sup> that you may fear Yahweh your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. <sup>3</sup> Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

<sup>4</sup> "Hear, O Israel: Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one. <sup>5</sup> You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

<sup>10</sup> "And when Yahweh your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, <sup>11</sup> and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, <sup>12</sup> then take care lest you forget Yahweh, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>13</sup> It is Yahweh your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. <sup>14</sup> You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you—<sup>15</sup> for Yahweh your God in your midst is a jealous God—lest the anger of Yahweh your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

 $^{\rm 16}$  "You shall not put Yahweh your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah."

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 David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-13)

Blessed are you, O Yahweh, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. *Yours, O Yahweh, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.* 

Yours is the kingdom, O Yahweh, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.

In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

And we pray your beloved Son's prayer:

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.

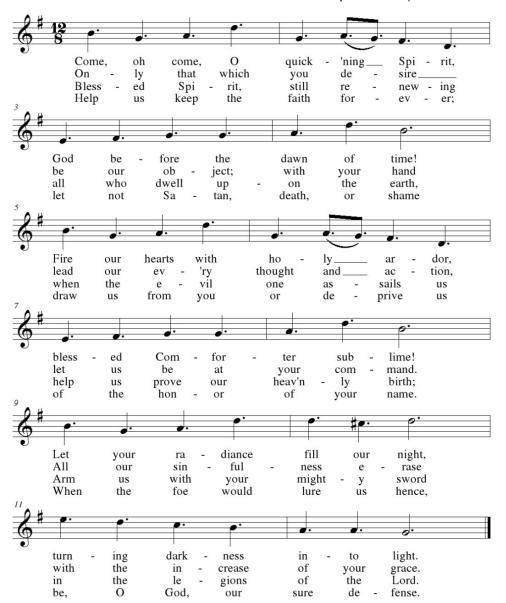
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

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

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

# Come, Oh Come, O Quickening Spirit

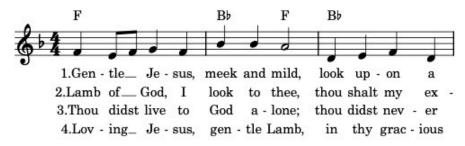
Text and Music: Heinrich Held (1620-1659), arr. Chip Ueltschey

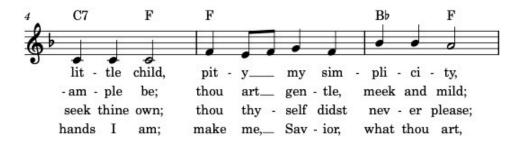


## **Gentle Jesus**

Text: Charles Wesley, Eric Costa

Music: Conrad Kocher ("Dix") • Public Domain









#### GOSPEL READING • Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. <sup>35</sup> And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

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

**SERMON • "The Great Commandments" (Rev. Eric Costa)** 

"Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I Yahweh your God am holy... You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am Yahweh... You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your God." (Leviticus 19:1-2, 18, 34)

"Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." (Romans 13:8-10)

"The whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'... The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:14, 22-23)

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love... Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us... If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother." (1 John 4:7-8, 11-12, 20-21)



# **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].)

## A Hymn To God The Father

A Poem by John Donne • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission



Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won others to sin, and made my sin their door? Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun a year or two, but wallow'd in a score?

When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more, I have more. (2x)

I have a sin of fear that when I've spun my last thread, I shall perish on the shore; but swear by thyself, that at my death thy sun shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.

And, having done that, thou hast done. I fear no more. I fear no more. (2x)

## The Lamb Has Overcome

Music and Lyrics: Luke Morton • ©2011 Cardiphonia Music



The table now is spread, the table now is spread; the wine and bread, broken body and blood shed, the table now is spread.

The day is drawing near, the day is drawing near; he shall appear and wipe away each tear, the day is drawing near!

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name! Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, glory be unto his name! (Repeat Chorus)

#### **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.

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

Newcomers' Lunch • Sun., Mar. 24 at the Costa home (1890 SE Maple Street, Hillsboro).

#### **Midweek Studies**

- 8:15am Tue. men's study at Longbottom Coffee: 1 Samuel 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 Behold and Believe (Doctor & Kimbrel)
   Contact: Holly McGarry (hollykliewer8@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).

Good Friday Service • 7pm Fri., March 29.

Easter Potluck Breakfast • 8:30am Sun., March 31.

**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.

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

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)	[ ] 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.