



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • SEPTEMBER 22, 2024



THE WORD



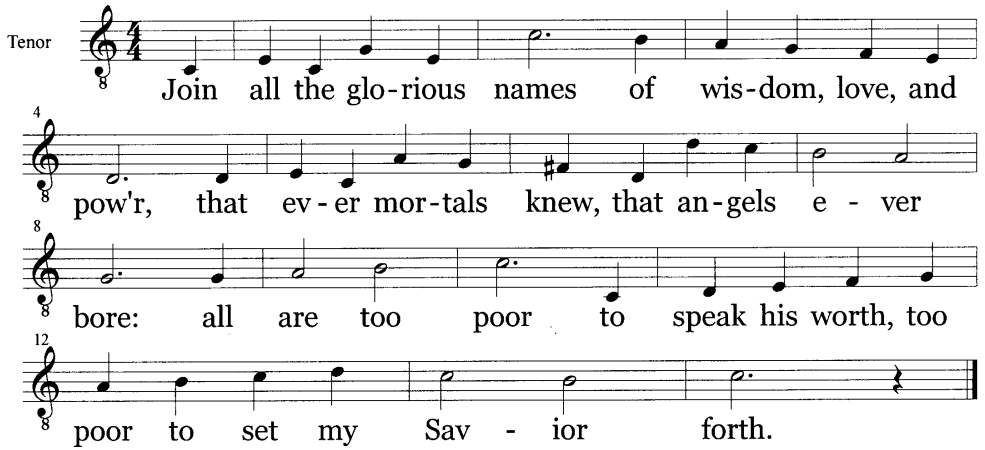
CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 30:4-5

Sing praises to Yahweh, O you his saints,
and give thanks to his holy name.
For his anger is but for a moment,
and his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may tarry for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

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 • John 8:34

“Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.”

CONFESSION OF SIN

God, you are majestic in your freedom to love. You made us to share this glory with you, but we doubted you and became enslaved to sin. Left to ourselves, we are spiritually blind, deaf, and lame; we cannot change or help ourselves; we are dead to you in our rebellion. We certainly do not deserve your kindness. Yet you remain free to love the unlovely, which is your glory. Take pity on us, forgive us, and make us alive to you. Restore us to true freedom in communion with you. Your declaration of mercy in Christ Jesus the Lord is our only hope and prayer. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • John 8:36

“If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

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 • Isaiah 43:1-7

- 1 But now thus says Yahweh,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
- 2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
- 3 For I am Yahweh your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
- 4 Because you are precious in my eyes,
and honored, and I love you,
I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.
- 5 Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
- 6 I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the end of the earth,
- 7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

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...

(Te Deum Laudamus, 5th Century)

You are God.

We praise you!

You are the Lord.

We acclaim you!

You are the eternal Father.

All creation worships you!

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might,
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory!*

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you.

Father, of majesty unbounded,

Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,

and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free,

you did not shun the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

Amen.

You Are Before Me, Lord

Text: Psalm 139, Ian Pitt-Watson

Music: Trad. Scottish Melody • Public Domain



1.You are be - fore me, Lord, You are be - hind,
2.Then from Your Spir - it where, Lord, shall I go;
3.If I should take my flight in - to the dawn,
4.If I should say, "Let dark - ness cov - er me,
5.Search me, O God, search me and know my heart;



And o - ver me You have spread out Your hand;
And from Your pres - ence where, Lord, shall I fly?
If I should dwell on o - cean's far - thest shore,
And I shall hide with - in the veil of night,"
Try me, O God, my mind and spir - it try;



Such knowl - edge is too won - der - ful for me,
If I as - cend to heav - en You are there,
Your might - y hand will rest up - on me still,
Sure - ly the dark - ness is not dark to You:
Keep me from an - y path that gives You pain,



Too high to grasp, too great to un - der - stand.
And still are with me if in hell I lie.
And Your right hand will guard me ev - er - more.
The night is as the day, the dark - ness light.
And lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Text and Music: based on the *Te Deum*, ca. 4th c. • arr. Chip Ueltschey



Ho - ly God, we praise your name;
Hark, the loud ce - les - tial hymn
Lo! the ap - os - tol - ic train
Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son,



Lord of all, we bow be - fore you;
an - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;
join your sa - cred name to hal - low;
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name you;



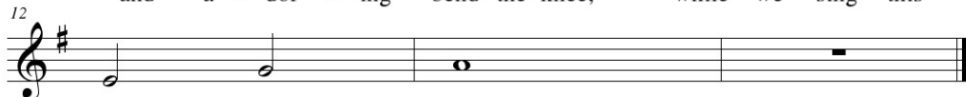
all on earth your scep - ter claim,
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim
proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
while in es - sence on - ly One,



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you.
in un - ceas - ing chor - us prais - ing,
and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you,



In - fi - nite your vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing
fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
and from morn to set of sun, through the church the
and a - dor - ing bend the knee, while we sing this



is your reign.
ho - ly Lord."
song goes on.
mys - ter - y.

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • "I Am With You Always"

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'" (John 20:21-23)

"All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him. 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].)

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

Text: Frank Houghton • Music: French Carol Melody • Public Domain

Alto 


Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing

5 

all for love's sake be - cam - est poor;
all for love's sake be - cam - est man;
Sav - ior and King we wor - ship thee.

9 

thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,

13 

sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor.
heav'n - ward by thine et - ter - nal plan.
make us what thou wouldst have us be.

17 

Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing

21 

all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

Gloria In The Highest

Text: Ambrose (4th Century), Martin Luther (16th Century)

Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used By Permission

Tenor

8 Sa - vior of the na - tions come,
Not by hu - man pow'r or seed
Mar - y then was found with child,
Christ laid down his maj - es - ty,
3 show your - self the vir - gin's son. Fill with won - der
did the wom - an's womb con - ceive; on - ly by the
still a vir - gin chaste and mild. God had fa - vored
6 passed through dark Geth - sem - a - ne. Though he left his
8 all the earth, that our God chose such a birth.
Spir - it's breath was the Word of God made flesh.
her with grace to re - ceive the Prince of Peace.
9 Fa - ther's home, Christ now sits on God's own throne.
8 Glo - ri - a! ____ Glo - ri - a! ____ Glo - ri - a! ____
15
8 In the high - - - est!

Since the star at Bethlehem brought new light to earth again,
may our faith shine bright each day; faithful God, keep sin away.

Christ in glory, intercede for your creature's suff'ring need.

Let your resurrecting pow'r soon complete the vict'ry hour.

(Chorus)

Praise to you, O Lord, we sing, praise to Christ our newborn King!

With the Father, Spirit, one, let your lasting kingdom come!

(Chorus x2)

BENEDICTION • Deuteronomy 31:8

It is Yahweh who goes before you.
He will be with you;
he will not leave you or forsake you.
Do not fear or be dismayed.

~

Community Setup & "Prefreshments" • 8:45am Sundays. Coffee/tea/donuts will be available at 9:30.

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

Men's Study of 1 Samuel • 8:15am Tuesdays at Longbottom Coffee.

Youth Group • 6:30pm to 8pm Wednesdays. Contact: Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com).

15 Years of Worship Celebration Potluck • After Worship on Sun., Sept. 29.

Ladies' Retreat • November 1-3 at the Lakehouse in Lincoln City. This year the church will cover the cost of the house rental. If you want to make a donation to Ascension specifically for that, feel free to do that by dropping a check in the offering bag, and write "Ladies' Retreat" in the memo line. (As we get closer to the date we will organize a meal plan.) Send your RSVP any time to Cheryl: by text to 503-319-8037, or email to cheryl@westuniongardens.com.

Ways to Serve • We want to provide folks with opportunities to be involved in various aspects of our church's life and ministry. For more information, please connect with the contact person(s):

- **Finance:** Rob Stevenson (robert.james.stevenson@gmail.com)
- **Missions:** Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)
- **Music:** Tim Sauerwein (tim@xyzyzy2.com)
- **Nursery:** Audrey Jaques (audreyelainejaques@gmail.com)
- **Setup:** Ransom Costa (ransom.costa@gmail.com)
- **Sunday School:** Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com)
- **Welcoming:** Sara Sery (the.serys@gmail.com)
- **Youth Group:** Tim Sery (fiby2020@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).

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

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PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

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

Our Presbytery (pacificnorthwestpresbytery.com)

Tomo Ito / Sacred Road Ministries at Warm Springs (sacredroadministries.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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ascensionpc.org



(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.