



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • NOVEMBER 17, 2024



CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 64:10

Let the righteous one rejoice in Yahweh
and take refuge in him!
Let all the upright in heart exult!

Holy, Holy, Holy

Text: Reginald Heber • Music: John Dykes • Public Domain



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ Lord___ God Al - migh - ty!___
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ All the saints a - dore Thee,___
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ though the dark - ness hide Thee,___
5 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly!___ Lord___ God Al - migh - ty!___



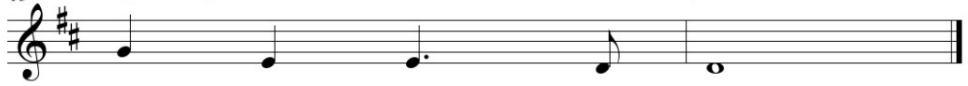
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not
8 All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and



Thee. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!___ Mer - ci - ful and
sea; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be -
see; On - ly Thou art ho - ly;___ there is none be -
12 sea; Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly;___ mer - ci - ful and



might - y!___ God in three per - sons,___
fore Thee,___ Who wert, and art, and___
side Thee,___ Per - fect in pow'r, in___
15 migh - ty!___ God in Three per - sons,___



bles - ed Trin - i - ty!
ev - er - more shalt be.
love, and pur - i - ty.
bles - ed Trin - i - ty!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 3:23-25

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

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 • Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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 46:10

“Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!”

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 Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to reign in justice as our King:

Cause our President and Congress to love justice and mercy. Help our Mayor and City Council to increase the peace of the city.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to destroy the works of the devil:

Restrain the wickedness in our city by your Law. Destroy the wickedness in our own hearts by your Spirit. Protect us from the temptations, deceit and accusations of the devil.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to bring us peace with God:

Bring peace between nations in your world; help Ascension to live in your peace together; come again soon to fully establish your peace on earth.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to seek and save that which was lost:

Show mercy to our friends who do not yet know you; deepen our faith in the Gospel of grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to destroy death and to bring life and immortality to light through the gospel:

Comfort those who are suffering in grief, in poverty, in sickness, in injustice.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world to sympathize with our weaknesses:

Please hear us as we bring you our specific requests. (Silent prayer)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray now in the words you 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.

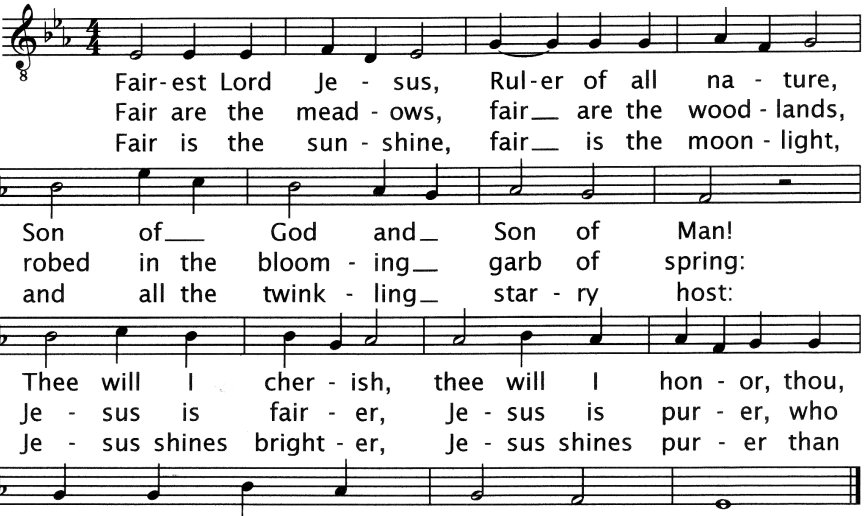
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Fairest Lord Jesus

Text: *Münster Gesangbuch* (Anonymous German Hymn, 1677)

Music: Silesian Folk Song (1842) • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Fair-est Lord Je - sus, Rul-er of all na - ture,
Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,

5
8 Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring:
and all the twink - ling star - ry host:

9
8 Thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or, thou,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, who
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than

13
8 my souls glo - ry, joy, and crown.
makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
all the an - gels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the Nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

He will be our guide even to the end. Ps. 48:14

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
 fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's De - struc - tion, land me safe on

pow' - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through; strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer,
 Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

GOSPEL READING • John 15:1-13

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

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

SERMON • "The Circular Reasoning of Jesus" (Tim Sery)

"Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me." (John 6:56-57)

"Whoever does not love abides in death." (1 John 3:14)

"If we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us... God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." (1 John 4:12, 16)



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].)

What Wondrous Love Is This

Text: American Folk Hymn • Music: Southern Harmony • Public Domain



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my
2 When I was sin-king down, sin-king down, sin-king
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won-drous love is this, O my soul! What
down, when I was sin-king down, sin-king down; ___ when
sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing! ___ To
on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! ___ And



won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to
I was sin-king down be - neath God's right eous frown, Christ
God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while
when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and



bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
sing, while mil lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

God Of My Life

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800)

Music: Benj Pocta, Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy

©2007 Red Mountain Music

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'God Of My Life'. It consists of eight staves of music, each with a vocal line and lyrics underneath. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'God of my life to Thee I call; Friend of the friend-less and the faint, That were a grief I could not bear, Af - flict - ed at Thy feet I fall; where should I lodge my deep com - plaint? didst Thou not hear and an - swer prayer; When the great wa - ter floods pre - - vail, Where but with Thee whose o - pen door, But a prayer hear - ing, an - swer - ing God, Leave not my tremb - ling heart to fail. In - vites the help - less and the poor? sup - ports me un - der ev - 'ry load. Poor though I am, des - pised, for - got, Yet God, my God, for - gets me not; And he is safe, and must suc - ceed, for whom, the Lord is sure to plead.'

God of my life to Thee I call;
Friend of the friend-less and the faint,
That were a grief I could not bear,
Af - flict - ed at Thy feet I fall;
where should I lodge my deep com - plaint?
didst Thou not hear and an - swer prayer;
When the great wa - ter floods pre - - vail,
Where but with Thee whose o - pen door,
But a prayer hear - ing, an - swer - ing God,
Leave not my tremb - ling heart to fail.
In - vites the help - less and the poor?
sup - ports me un - der ev - 'ry load.
Poor though I am, des - pised, for -
got, Yet God, my God, for - gets me not;
And he is safe, and must suc - ceed, for whom, the
Lord is sure to plead.

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts
to the love of God
and to the steadfastness of Christ.

~

Community Setup & “Refreshments” • 8:45am Sundays. Coffee/tea/donuts are available at 9:30.

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

Midweek Meetings:

- 8:15am Tue. Men’s Study - contact: Eric Costa (rev.eric.costa@gmail.com)
- 1:30pm Wed. Women’s Study - contact: Cheryl Boden (cheryl@westuniongardens.com)
- 6:30pm Wed. Youth Group - contact: Tim Sery (fiby2020@gmail.com)
- 9am Thu. Women’s Study - contact: Audrey Jaques (audreyelainejaques@gmail.com)

Potluck Lunch & Book Discussion • After Worship on Sun., Nov. 24. Please bring something to share for our meal together. We’ll discuss the little book, *Enjoy Your Prayer Life*, by Michael Reeves.

Advent Choir • Contact Tim Sauerwein if you’re interested in singing this Advent/Christmas season.

Missionary Christmas Cards • Contact: Samuel Waltner (sam.waltner@gmail.com).

Men’s Retreat • Feb. 21-23 on the Sandy River. 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.

•

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)

Unless otherwise indicated*, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. (*We regularly print God’s personal name, “Yahweh,” instead of using the traditional small-caps placeholder “LORD” as the ESV does.) Printed songs are used by permission under CCLI license #11109756.

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.