



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • NOVEMBER 24, 2024


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP • Psalm 66:1-2

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!

We Rest on Thee

Text: Edith G. Cherry, ca. 1895 (based on 2 Chronicles 14:11)

Music: *Finlandia*, arr. Jean Sibelius • Public Domain

“We rest on thee”—our shield and our defender!

We go not forth alone against the foe;
strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,

“We rest on thee, and in thy name we go,”
strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,

“We rest on thee, and in thy name we go.”

Yea, “in thy name,” O Captain of salvation!

In thy dear name, all other names above;
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love,
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love.

“We go” in faith, our own great weakness feeling,
and needing more each day thy grace to know:

yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,

“We rest on thee, and in thy name we go,”

yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,

“We rest on thee, and in thy name we go.”

“We rest on thee”—our shield and our defender!

Thine is the battle, thine shall be the praise
when passing through the gates of pearly splendor,
victors—we rest with thee, through endless days,
when passing through the gates of pearly splendor,
victors—we rest with thee, through endless days.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 7:18-19

I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Creator God, you have given us everything we have, including our very selves. Yet we have refused to receive what we have as gifts, because we have rejected you as the Giver. We have been ungrateful. We have boasted as if we were self-made and self-sufficient. We have hoarded our wealth, not believing in your future generosity. We have gratified ourselves and consumed as much as we can without sharing. We have withheld ourselves from you and others, because we do not delight in giving like you do. But you live forever as Giver, Gift, and Given, and you have even given yourself to us. In your mercy, forgive us. In your grace, fill us with your Gift-life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

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 100

A PSALM FOR GIVING THANKS.

- 1 Make a joyful noise to Yahweh, all the earth!
- 2 Serve Yahweh with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
- 3 Know that Yahweh, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- 5 For Yahweh is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

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 Father in Heaven, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. You did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all; how will you not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

We thank you for your daily provision for our physical needs. We thank you for your care for our souls. We thank you for your mercy given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lord Jesus, You rule over all things for the sake of your Church. You are at the right hand of God interceding for us constantly. Nothing can separate us from your love.

Increase the peace and purity and unity of this congregation. Strengthen the church of Christ in our city. Protect and stand with our brothers and sisters everywhere who are being persecuted for their faith.

Our Savior, you invite the weary and burdened to come to you and find rest. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. You are gentle and humble in heart.

Heal those who are sick. Give your grace and peace to those facing imminent death and to those who care for them. Comfort those who are grieving. Sit closely with those who are lonely. Provide for those who are seeking work. Free those who are struggling with enslaving sins.

Our great God, we hear your promise that the knowledge of your glory will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea. We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

Increase the spread of the Gospel in and through our city, to the world. We ask you to extend your mercy to our friends and loved ones.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

Amen.

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.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Text: Thomas O. Chisolm

Music: William M. Runyan • ©1923/1951 Hope Publishing Co.

Tenor

8 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Father; there is no
6 shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
11 pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev-er wilt
16 be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!
21 Morn-ing by morn-ing new mercies I see: all I have
26 need-ed thy hand hath pro - vided, Great is thy faith-ful-ness,
31 Lord, un - - - to me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten-thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

NEW TESTAMENT READING • 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Gratitude” (Joe Pope)



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. 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 catholic† 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].)

* 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.

† 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 - fen - 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!

We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

Sandra McCracken, Joshua Moore • © 2015 Drink Your Tea Music

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with a 4/4 time signature and a repeat sign. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our hearts re - stored. He has done great things we will say to - ge - ther We will feast and weep no more. We will not be burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God we are not consumed by the flood Up-held pro-tect - ed, ga - thered up". The score includes measure numbers 4, 7, and 11. There are changes in time signature to 2/4 and 4/4 later in the piece.

We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our
4 hearts re - stored. He has done great things we will say to - ge - ther
7 We will feast and weep no more. We will not be
11 burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God we are not con-
sumed by the flood Up-held pro-tect - ed, ga - thered up

(Chorus)

*We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things!" we will say together.
We will feast and weep no more!*

In the dark of night, before the dawn,
my soul, be not afraid;
for the promised morning— oh, how long?
O God of Jacob, be my strength.

(Chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed.
You are the Faithful one.
And from the garden to the grave,
bind us together, bring shalom.

(Chorus)

BENEDICTION • Colossians 1:11-12

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

~

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

After Worship Today • Join us in the fellowship hall for a potluck lunch and discussion of the little book, *Enjoy Your Prayer Life*, by Michael Reeves. (There will be no Sunday School today.)

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)

Mercy Sunday • On the first Sunday of each month (Dec. 1) 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.

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. 28 - Mar. 2 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.

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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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(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.