



# Ascension PCA

August 16, 2020



A community of worshipping, maturing,  
and multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ,  
to the glory of God the Father,  
by the power of His Spirit,  
and in the hope of God's Kingdom.

## A word about our liturgy

The elements and sequence that make up our worship service (the liturgy) is the way we tell ourselves, one another, and all in this place, the grand story of the Triune God: the story of God pursuing a people despite their wanderings and forgetfulness, and shaping them into His people for His glory.



## QUIETING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

*There are many heads lying in Christ's bosom,  
but there is room for yours among the rest.*

~ Samuel Rutherford

# GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*We gather at the invitation of God through His Word.  
He speaks first, revealing Himself to us,  
and we respond with one voice in joy and thanksgiving!*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 30:1-5*

M: I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up  
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,  
and You have healed me.

O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;  
You restored me to life from among those  
who go down to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,  
and give thanks to His holy name.

**P: 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.**

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)*

**Out of the depths I cry to You,  
In darkest places I will call,  
Incline Your ear to me anew,  
And hear my cry for mercy, Lord.**

**Were You to count my sinful ways,  
How could I come before Your throne?  
Yet, full forgiveness meets my gaze,  
I stand redeemed by grace alone.**

...

***I will wait for You,  
I will wait for You,  
On Your word I will rely.  
I will wait for You,  
surely wait for You  
Till my soul is satisfied.***

**So put Your hope in God alone,  
Take courage in His power to save,  
Completely and forever won  
By Christ emerging from the grave.**

***I will wait for You,  
I will wait for You,  
On Your word I will rely.  
I will wait for You,  
surely wait for You  
Till my soul is satisfied.***

**Now He has come to make a way,  
And God Himself has paid the price,  
That all who trust in Him today  
Find healing in His sacrifice.**

***I will wait for You,  
I will wait for You  
Through the storm  
and through the night.  
I will wait for You,  
surely wait for You,  
For Your love is my delight.***

***I will wait for You,  
I will wait for You  
Through the storm  
and through the night.  
I will wait for You,  
surely wait for You,  
For Your love is my delight.***

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matthew Merker, Stuart Townend  
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Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

*Lord, for Your Glory*

**Lord, for Your glory  
We sing Your praises,  
We magnify Your holy name.  
All for Your glory,  
Lord, we bring blessing.  
We seek to honor You all of our days!**

***We lift our hands,  
We lift our praise to You,  
We worship all You are in spirit and truth.  
We give our hearts,  
We live our lives for You,  
We offer all we are for the glory of You.***

**Almighty Father,  
We are Your children.  
You have been faithful to Your own.  
Lord, for Your glory,  
We have been chosen.  
We lay down all we have here at Your throne!**

***We lift our hands,  
We lift our praise to You,  
We worship all You are in spirit and truth.  
We give our hearts,  
We live our lives for You,  
We offer all we are,  
We offer all we have,  
We offer all our lives for the glory of You.***

Words and music by David B. Hampton, Matt Huesmann & Grant Cunningham (1998)  
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# OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

## *Psalm 32*

- 1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.
- 2 Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts  
no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- 3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.
- 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up  
as by the heat of summer.
- 5 I acknowledged my sin to You,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- 6 Therefore let everyone who is godly  
offer prayer to You at a time  
when You may be found;  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not reach him.
- 7 You are a hiding place for me;  
You preserve me from trouble;  
You surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 8 I will instruct you and teach you  
in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- 9 Be not like a horse or a mule,  
without understanding,  
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
or it will not stay near you.
- 10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds the one  
who trusts in the LORD.
- 11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

# GOD CLEANSSES US

*We gather each week as sinners in constant need of His mercy. The corporate confession of sin acknowledges this and invites honest expression before God. However, God isn't silent as we cry out to Him — He assures us that His grace is bigger than our sin. God's forgiveness is for all those who humble themselves before Him in Christ Jesus.*

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Almighty God,  
unto Whom all hearts are open  
and all desires are known,  
and before Whom no secrets are hidden,  
and every private wish is known  
as if it were spoken aloud,  
cleanse the thoughts and desires of our hearts  
by the power and grace of Your Holy Spirit,  
so that we may perfectly love You  
and worthily magnify Your holy name.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*~ Please use this time for silent confession.*

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

*Titus 3:3-7*

**M:** For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

# SONG OF ASSURANCE

## *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Save from wrath and make me pure.**

**Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know?  
Could my tears forever flow?  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die!**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When my eyes shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.**

Words by Kate B. Wilkinson (1925)  
Music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould (1925; alt. 1990)  
PUBLIC DOMAIN



# GOD SPEAKS TO US

*The Holy Spirit makes the reading and preaching of God's Word a crucial means of growing and comforting God's people and awakening people to new faith in Jesus.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### READING OF THE WORD

*Luke 18:9-14*

<sup>9</sup> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt:

<sup>10</sup> "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

<sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'

<sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

<sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

## GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end.  
Amen, Amen.**

# PREACHING OF THE WORD

*"The High Price of Your High-Mindedness"*

*Pastor Ed Volz*

## PRAYER

## SONG OF RESPONSE

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
Was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.**

***My chains are gone, I've been set free;  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
Unending love, amazing grace.***

**The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.**

***My chains are gone, I've been set free;  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
Unending love, amazing grace.***

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine.  
But God, Who called me here below  
Will be forever mine,  
Will be forever mine,  
You are forever mine.**

# GOD COMMUNES WITH US

*The Lord's Supper is a meal for the family of God, given by Jesus the night before His death to be celebrated until His return. It points back to the cross, forward to the return of King, and spiritually nourishes us for today as we eat and drink in faith.*

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### CONFESSING OUR FAITH

*Philippians 2:4-11*

M: "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus...

**P: ...who, though He was in the form of God,  
did not count equality with God  
a thing to be grasped,  
but emptied Himself,  
by taking the form of a servant,  
being born in the likeness of men.**

**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."**

# CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## PRAYER/MEDITATION

## 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.**

## BENEDICTION



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# **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

**9:00AM: Worship Service (livestream)**

**10:30AM: Worship Service (outdoors at ECOG)**

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and that any automatic payments are being sent  
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