



Ascension PCA

September 13, 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

*Now I should like to know whether your soul,
tired of its own righteousness,
is learning to be revived by
and to trust in the righteousness of Christ...
My dear brother, learn Christ and Him crucified.
Learn to pray to Him and, despairing of yourself,
say, "You, Lord Jesus, are my righteousness,
but I am Your sin. You have taken upon Yourself
what is mine and have given to me what is Yours.
You have taken upon Yourself what You were not
and have given to me what I was not."
Beware of aspiring to such purity that you will not wish
to be looked upon as a sinner, or to be one.
For Christ dwells only in sinners.
On this account He descended from heaven,
where He dwelt among the righteous,
to dwell among sinners.
Meditate on this love of His
and you will see His sweet consolation.*

~ Martin Luther

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

from Revelation 4,5

M: Worthy are You, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for You created all things,
and by Your will they existed and were created.

**P: Worthy are You to take the scroll
and open its seals,
for You were slain,
and by Your blood You ransomed people
for God from every tribe and language
and people and nation,
and You have made them a kingdom
and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth...
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom
and might and honor and glory and blessing!**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

Crown Him with Many Crowns

**Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.**

**Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.**

**No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright.**

**Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife,
For those He came to save.**

**His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

Words by Matthew Bridges (1851)

Music by George Job Elvey (1868)

PUBLIC DOMAIN

This Is Our God

**God our Father, full of power,
Maker of the heavens,
Maker of the world.
Forming all things, seen and unseen,
Truly the Almighty
Beyond all measure worth;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!***

***We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

**Our Lord Jesus sent to save us,
Born unto a virgin,
Lived a perfect life.
Greatly suffered, dying for us.
From the grave He's risen,
Seated now on high;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!***

***We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

**Spirit, holy, One in glory,
Speaking through the prophets,
Empowering the Church.
Life is given by and through Him,
With the Son and Father,
Worshipped and adored;
Holy is His Name!**

...

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!***

***We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

Inspired by the Nicene Creed (325 A.D.)

Words & music by Neil DeGraide, Doug Plank, Dave Fournier, Zach Jones,
George Romanacce

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OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 37:1-7

- 1 Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!
- 2 For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.
- 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
- 4 Delight yourself in the LORD,
and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in Him, and He will act.
- 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him;
fret not yourself over the one
who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

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,
we humble ourselves in Your presence,
confessing our sin and confiding in Your mercy.**

**We have not sought first Your kingdom
and righteousness.**

**Rather, we have been anxious and troubled
about many things,
and we have not loved our neighbor
as ourselves,
or done to others
as we would have them do to us.**

**Most gracious God, our heavenly Father,
who has given Your Son, Jesus Christ,
to save Your people from their sins;
forgive us.**

**Cleanse us from all unrighteousness,
and renew a right spirit within us:
through the grace of Jesus Christ, Amen.**

~ Please use this time for silent confession.

PRAYER OF ASSURANCE

based on Ephesians 1:3-18

P: All glorious God, we give You thanks!

**In Your Son, Jesus Christ,
You have given us every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly realms.**

**You chose us, before the world was made,
to be Your holy people,
without fault in Your sight.**

**You adopted us as Your children in Christ.
You have set us free by His blood;
You have forgiven our sins.**

**All praise and glory be Yours, O God,
for the richness of Your grace,
for the splendor of Your gifts,
for the wonder of Your love.**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

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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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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD

Matthew 6:19–34

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,

²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

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.

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing?

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

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 Path of Peace"

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

PRAYER

SONG OF RESPONSE

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul:

The Lord is on your side;

Bear patiently

The cross of grief or pain.

Leave to your God

To order and provide;

In every change,

He faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul:

Your best, your heavenly Friend

Through thorny ways

Leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul:

Your God will undertake

To guide the future,

As He has the past.

Your hope, your confidence

Let nothing shake;

All now mysterious

Shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul:

The waves and winds still know

His voice who ruled them

While He dwelt with us below.

...

**Be still, my soul:
The hour is hastening on
When we shall be
Forever with the Lord.
When disappointment,
Grief and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot,
Love's purest joys restored.**

***Be still, my soul:
When change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed
We shall meet at last.***

Words by Katharina A. von Schlegel (1752); tr. By Jane L. Borthwick (1855)
Music by Rick Jensen (2003)
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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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**P: 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 Ghost,
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 sits on
the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER/MEDITATION

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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A NOTE ABOUT GIVING

Please make sure that checks are made out to
Ascension Presbyterian Church
and that any automatic payments are being sent
to the **P.O. Box mailing address** listed.