



Ascension PCA

November 22, 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

*To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God  
in everything He has given us —  
and He has given us everything.*

*Every breath we draw is a gift of His love,  
every moment of existence is a grace,  
for it brings with it immense graces from Him.*

*Gratitude therefore  
takes nothing for granted,  
is never unresponsive,  
is constantly awakening to new wonder  
and to praise of the goodness of God.*

*For the grateful person knows that God is good,  
not by hearsay but by experience.*

*And that is what makes all the difference.*

~ Thomas Merton

# 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 8*

**P: O LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is Your name in all the earth!  
You have set Your glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouth of babies and infants,  
You have established strength  
because of Your foes,  
to still the enemy and the avenger.**

M: When I look at Your heavens,  
the work of Your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which You have set in place,  
what is man that You are mindful of him,  
and the son of man that You care for him?  
Yet You have made him a little lower  
than the heavenly beings  
and crowned him with glory and honor.  
You have given him dominion  
over the works of Your hands;  
You have put all things under his feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the heavens,  
and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

**P: O LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

# PRAYER OF ADORATION

*followed by the Lord's Prayer:*

**P: 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.**

# SONGS OF PRAISE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Come, Thou Fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.**

**Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by Thy help I've come;  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.**

...

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.**

**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.**

Words by Robert Robinson (1758).  
Music by Asahel Nettleton (1825).  
PUBLIC DOMAIN.

### *Praise the Lord Ye Heavens*

**Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore Him,  
Praise Him angels in the height,  
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him,  
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.**

**Praise the Lord for He hath spoken,  
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed,  
Laws which never shall be broken  
For their guidance He hath made.**

***All creation join the song of praise,  
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,  
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy  
All of our days!***

**Praise the Lord! for He is glorious,  
Never shall His promise fail,  
God hath made His saints victorious,  
Sin and death shall not prevail.**

***All creation join the song of praise,  
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,  
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy  
All of our days!***

...

**Glory, glory  
All glory to You, Lord!**

**Glory, glory  
All glory to You, Lord!**

**Glory, glory  
All glory to You, Lord!**

**Praise the God of our salvation!  
Hosts on high, His power proclaim,  
Heaven and earth, and all creation  
Laud and magnify His Name.**

***All creation join the song of praise,  
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,  
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy  
All of our days!***

***And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy  
All of our days!***

***And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy  
All of our days!***

Words and music by Eric J. Marshall  
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## OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

*Jeremiah 5:1-13*

*Mr. Austin Clement*

- 1 Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem,  
look and take note!  
Search her squares to see  
if you can find a man,  
one who does justice  
and seeks truth,  
that I may pardon her.
- 2 Though they say, "As the LORD lives,"  
yet they swear falsely.
- 3 O LORD, do not Your eyes look for truth?  
You have struck them down,  
but they felt no anguish;  
You have consumed them,  
but they refused to take correction.  
They have made their faces harder than rock;  
they have refused to repent.

...

4 Then I said, "These are only the poor;  
they have no sense;  
for they do not know the way of the LORD,  
the justice of their God.

5 I will go to the great  
and will speak to them,  
for they know the way of the LORD,  
the justice of their God."  
But they all alike had broken the yoke;  
they had burst the bonds.

6 Therefore a lion from the forest shall strike  
them down;  
a wolf from the desert shall devastate them.  
A leopard is watching their cities;  
everyone who goes out of them shall be torn  
in pieces,  
because their transgressions are many,  
their apostasies are great.

7 "How can I pardon you?  
Your children have forsaken Me  
and have sworn by those who are no gods.  
When I fed them to the full,  
they committed adultery  
and trooped to the houses of whores.

8 They were well-fed, lusty stallions,  
each neighing for his neighbor's wife.

9 Shall I not punish them for these things?  
declares the LORD;  
and shall I not avenge Myself  
on a nation such as this?

10 "Go up through her vine rows and destroy,  
but make not a full end;  
strip away her branches,  
for they are not the LORD'S.

11 For the house of Israel and the house of Judah  
have been utterly treacherous to Me,  
declares the LORD.

12 They have spoken falsely of the LORD  
and have said, 'He will do nothing;  
no disaster will come upon us,  
nor shall we see sword or famine.

13 The prophets will become wind;  
the word is not in them.  
Thus shall it be done to them!"

# 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

*adapted from the Valley of Vision*

**P: O LORD GOD, teach me to know  
that grace precedes, accompanies,  
and follows my salvation,  
that it sustains the redeemed soul,  
that no one link of its chain can ever break.  
How great are my privileges in Christ Jesus!**

**Without Him I stand far off,  
a stranger, an outcast;  
in Him I draw near  
and touch His kingly scepter.  
Without Him I dare not lift my guilty eyes;  
in Him I gaze upon my Father-God and Friend.  
Without Him I hide my lips in trembling shame;  
in Him I open my mouth in petition and praise.**

**Praise be to Thee for grace  
and for the unspeakable gift of Jesus!**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

*In these moments, we confess our personal sins to God so that we may take hold of the forgiveness won for us by Christ, our Redeemer.*

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*John 3:16*

M: For God so loved the world  
that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him  
shall not perish but have eternal life.

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

*O Great God*

**O great God of highest heav'n,  
Occupy my lowly heart.  
Own it all and reign supreme,  
Conquer every rebel pow'r.  
Let no vice or sin remain  
That resists Your holy war.  
You have loved and purchased me,  
Make me Yours forevermore.**

**I was blinded by my sin,  
Had no ears to hear Your voice,  
Did not know Your love within,  
Had no taste for heaven's joys.  
Then your Spirit gave me life,  
Opened up Your Word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son,  
Gave me endless hope and peace.**

**Help me now to live a life  
That's dependent on Your grace.  
Keep my heart and guard my soul  
From the evils that I face.**

**You are worthy to be praised  
With my every thought and deed.  
O great God of highest heav'n,  
Glorify Your name through me.**

Words and music by Bob Kauflin.  
Based on The Valley of Vision prayer "Regeneration."  
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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

*Luke 17:11-19*

<sup>11</sup> On the way to Jerusalem He was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."

<sup>14</sup> When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup> Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; <sup>16</sup> and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.

<sup>17</sup> Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? <sup>18</sup> Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"

<sup>19</sup> And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

## 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

*"A Posture of Gratitude"*

*Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

## PRAYER

## SONG OF RESPONSE

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

**Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.**

***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!***

**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!***

Words by Thomas O. Chisholm (1923).

Music by William M. Runyan (1923)

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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.*

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Pastor Ed Volz*

## CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

*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

*Please come forward to receive the elements at the table, then return to your seats. Please HOLD elements until we can all partake TOGETHER.*

## SONG OF MEDITATION

*Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted*

**Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See Him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
By His Son, God now has spoken:  
'Tis the true and faithful Word.**

**Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends through fear His cause disowning,  
Foes insulting His distress:  
Many hands were raised to wound Him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him,  
Was the stroke that Justice gave.**

**Ye who think of sin but lightly,  
Nor suppose the evil great,  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.**

**Mark the Sacrifice appointed,  
See Who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,  
Son of Man and Son of God.**

...

**Here we have a firm foundation,  
Here the refuge of the lost.  
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,  
His the Name of which we boast.**

**Lamb of God for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded,  
Who on Him their hope have built.**

Words by Thomas Kelly (1804; alt. 1961)  
Music from *Geistliche Volkslieder*, Paderborn (1850)  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## GOD SENDS US

*We end by receiving God's promises to us as His people.  
He will be with us as we serve Him in this world,  
to the end of all time.*

## BENEDICTION

## 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.**



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# **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

**9:30AM: Worship Service**  
**(in-person & livestream)**

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