



Ascension PCA

March 7, 2021

THE BOOK OF
Galatians



**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

*I am the woman at the well, I am the harlot.
I am the scattered seed that fell along the path.
I am the son who ran away,
I am the bitter son who stayed.*

*I am the angry men who came to stone the lover.
I am the woman there ashamed before the crowd.
I am the leper who gave thanks,
I am the nine who never came.*

*My God, my God, why hast Thou accepted me?
You took my sin and wrapped me
in Your robe and Your ring.
My God, my God, why hast Thou accepted me?
When all my love was vinegar to a thirsty king.
My God, my God, why hast Thou accepted me?
It's a mystery of mercy and the song I sing!*

~ Andrew Peterson

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

Romans 11:33–36

MINISTER : Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom
and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable His judgments,
and His paths beyond tracing out!

MEN: **“Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been His counselor?”**

WOMEN: **“Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay Him?”**

ALL: **For from Him and through Him and to Him
are all things.
To Him be the glory forever! Amen.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

**God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.
Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs
And works His sovereign will.**

...

**Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.**

**Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break
In blessings on your head.**

***Holy, Holy,
Oh mysteries beyond,
Glory, Glory
Be to our Sovereign God.***

**Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.**

**His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.**

***Holy, Holy,
Oh mysteries beyond,
Glory, Glory
Be to our Sovereign God.***

***Holy, Holy,
Oh mysteries beyond,
Glory, Glory
Be to our Sovereign God.***

Words by William Cowper and Matt Papa. Music by Matt Papa.
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Only a Holy God

**Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God.**

...

**What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God.**

***Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

**What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God.**

***Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

**Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God,
Only my Holy God!**

***Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

***Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

Words and music by Dustin R. Smith, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson.
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and CityAlight Music

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 10:1–10

¹ Hear the word that the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel. ² Thus says the LORD:

“Learn not the way of the nations,
nor be dismayed at the signs of the heavens
because the nations are dismayed at them,
³ for the customs of the peoples are vanity.

A tree from the forest is cut down
and worked with an axe by the hands
of a craftsman.

⁴ They decorate it with silver and gold;
they fasten it with hammer and nails
so that it cannot move.

⁵ Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field,
and they cannot speak;
they have to be carried,
for they cannot walk.

Do not be afraid of them,
for they cannot do evil,
neither is it in them to do good.”

⁶ There is none like You, O LORD;
You are great, and Your name is great in might.

⁷ Who would not fear You, O King of the nations?
For this is Your due;

for among all the wise ones of the nations
and in all their kingdoms
there is none like You.

⁸ They are both stupid and foolish;
the instruction of idols is but wood!

⁹ Beaten silver is brought from Tarshish,
and gold from Uphaz.

They are the work of the craftsman
and of the hands of the goldsmith;
their clothing is violet and purple;
they are all the work of skilled men.

¹⁰ But the LORD is the true God;
He is the living God and the everlasting King.

At His wrath the earth quakes,
and the nations cannot endure His indignation.

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.

SONG OF CONFESSION

Lord, Have Mercy

**For what we have done
and left undone,
We fall on Your countless mercies.
For sins that are known,
and those unknown,
We call on Your name so holy.**

**For envy and pride,
for closing our eyes,
For scorning our very neighbor.
In thought, word, and deed
we've failed You, our King.
How deeply we need a Savior.**

***Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.***

***Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.***

**For what You have done,
Your life of love
You perfectly lived, we praise You.
Though tempted and tried,
You fixed Your eyes;
You finished the work God gave You.**

...

**And there on the tree,
a King among thieves,
You bled for a world's betrayal.
You loved to the end,
our merciful friend.
How pure and forever faithful.**

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.*

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.*

**For hearts that are cold,
for seizing control,
For scorning our very Maker.
In thought word and deed,
we've failed You, our King;
How deeply we need a Savior.**

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.*

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy on us.*

Words & music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Aaron Keys, and James Tealy
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Merciful God,

**We confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved You with our whole heart
and mind and strength.**

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

...

**In Your mercy,
Forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your holy name.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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.*

THE GOOD NEWS

Ephesians 1:7

**M: In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of His grace...**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.***

**When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.**

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.***

...

**His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.**

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.***

**When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.**

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.***

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.***

Words by Edward Mote (1834); music by John Stainer (1863).
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

Galatians 6:6–10

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

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 Harvest of Good”

Rev. Nate Hitchcock

PRAYER

SONG OF RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

**May the mind of Christ, my Savior
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and pow'r controlling
All I do and say.**

**May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His pow'r.**

**May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing:
This is victory.**

**May His beauty rest upon me
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.**

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

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

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

PRAYER | MEDITATION

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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Scripture text from
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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

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