



Ascension PCA

March 28, 2021



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

Dear Lord Jesus,

We want what David had —  
an intense yearning and craving for **You**.  
Make us so thirsty that we'll remain insatiable  
until You hydrate our hearts with the gospel;  
satisfy us with Your steadfast love;  
quench us with fresh grace.

It's a dangerous thing not to miss fellowship with You, Jesus.  
It's a deceptive thing to enjoy You,  
but no longer actually **need** You.  
It's a deceitful thing to be satisfied  
with correct theology **about** You,  
without experiencing rich communion **with** You.  
It's a deadly thing to find our ultimate satisfaction  
in anyone or anything else but **You**.

**Only** Your steadfast love is better than life, Lord Jesus —  
only Your mercy drenched, grace propelled,  
God-favor-filled affection for us.

**Nothing** else will do.

You've created a gospel-shaped vacuum in our hearts —  
a screaming empty place that fits only You.

Forgive us when we try to cram human love, creature comforts,  
or **anything else** into that place.

Keep us redemptively discontent  
until our hearts rest again in You.

~ *Scotty Smith*

# 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

M: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!

**P: Great is His power and of His wisdom  
there is no end.**

M: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion,  
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem  
Behold, your King comes to you  
gentle and riding on a donkey.

**P: He shall have dominion from sea to sea  
and from the river unto the ends of the earth.  
All nations will be blessed through Him  
and they shall call Him blessed.**

M: All kings will bow down to Him  
and all nations will serve Him.  
For He will deliver the needy who cry out,  
the afflicted who have no one to help.

**P: He will take pity on the weak and the needy  
and save the needy from death.  
He will rescue them from oppression and violence,  
for precious is their blood in His sight.**

M: Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel,  
who alone does marvelous deeds.

**P: Praise be to His glorious name forever;  
may the whole earth be filled with His glory.**

M: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

**P: Hosanna in the highest!**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

# SONGS OF PRAISE

## *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**All glory, laud and honor,  
To You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children,  
Made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel,  
And David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's Name coming,  
The King and Blessed One.**

**The company of angels  
Is praising You on high;  
And we with all creation  
In chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before You went,  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before You we present.**

**To You, before Your passion,  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To You, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.  
As You received their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
For You delight in goodness  
O good and gracious King!**

Words by Theodulf, Bishop of Orléans ca. 820); Translated by John Mason Neale (1851; alt.)  
Music by Melchior Teschner (ca. 1615)  
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!***

Words and music by Eric J. Marshall

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# NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

## *Matthew 21:1–11*

<sup>1</sup> Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.

<sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and He will send them at once.”

<sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup> “Say to the daughter of Zion,  
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.

<sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. <sup>8</sup> Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

<sup>9</sup> And the crowds that went before him and that followed Him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” <sup>10</sup> And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

# 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: God Almighty, God of all mercy and grace,  
we come to confess our failures.**

**Father, our songs have too often become  
vain babbling rather than joyful confessions  
of Your perfection and passionate celebrations  
of Your salvation.**

**Jesus, we have freely sung the praises of  
earthly pleasure and passing beauty  
while remaining smugly silent  
concerning Your saving grace.**

**Holy Spirit, we have relied too much  
on our own strength and failed to remember  
Your presence and Your power in our lives.**

**Forgive our folly and refresh our souls.  
Fill us again with the joy of salvation.  
That we might again sing,  
"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the 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.*

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Zephaniah 3:14-17*

M: Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,  
O Daughter of Jerusalem!  
The LORD has taken away your punishment;  
He has turned back your enemy.  
the LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;  
never again will you fear any harm.  
On that day they will say to Jerusalem:  
*“Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands hang limp.  
The LORD your God is with you,  
He is mighty to save;  
He will take great delight in you;  
He will quiet you with His love;  
He will rejoice over you with singing.”*

# SONG OF ASSURANCE

*I Will Glory in My Redeemer*

**I will glory in my Redeemer,  
Whose priceless blood has ransomed me.  
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails,  
And hung Him on that judgment tree.**

***I will glory in my Redeemer,  
Who crushed the power of sin and death.  
My only Savior before the Holy Judge:  
The Lamb who is my righteousness,  
The Lamb who is my righteousness.***

**I will glory in my Redeemer.  
My life He bought, my love He owns.  
I have no longings for another,  
I'm satisfied in Him alone.**

...

***I will glory in my Redeemer,  
His faithfulness, my standing place.  
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me,  
My feet are firm, held by His grace,  
My feet are firm, held by His grace.***

**I will glory in my Redeemer,  
Who carries me on eagles' wings.  
He crowns my life with loving kindness,  
His triumph song I'll ever sing.**

***I will glory in my Redeemer,  
Who waits for me at gates of gold.  
And when He calls me it will be paradise,  
His face forever to behold,  
His face forever to behold.***

Words and music by Steve & Vikki Cook  
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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

### *Psalm 110*

- 1 The LORD says to my Lord:  
"Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your enemies your footstool."
- 2 The LORD sends forth from Zion  
your mighty scepter.  
Rule in the midst of your enemies!
- 3 Your people will offer themselves freely  
on the day of your power,  
in holy garments;  
from the womb of the morning,  
the dew of your youth will be yours.

- 4 The LORD has sworn  
and will not change His mind,  
“You are a priest forever  
after the order of Melchizedek.”
- 5 The Lord is at your right hand;  
He will shatter kings on the day of His wrath.
- 6 He will execute judgment among the nations,  
filling them with corpses;  
He will shatter chiefs  
over the wide earth.
- 7 He will drink from the brook by the way;  
therefore He will lift up His head.

## 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 King Comes”*

*Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

## PRAYER



# SONG OF RESPONSE

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

**All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!**

**Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!**

**Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,  
On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!**

Verses 1-2 by Edward Perronet (1779); verse 3 by John Rippon (1787).  
Music by Oliver Holden (1793)  
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

# PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

*from the Westminster Confession of Faith (Ch. VIII)*

**P: God was pleased, in His eternal purpose,  
to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus,  
His only begotten Son,  
to be the mediator between God  
and human beings.**

**As the mediator,  
He is the prophet, priest, and king,  
the head and Savior of the church,  
the heir of all things,  
and the judge of the world.**

**God gave to Him, from all eternity,  
a people to be His seed  
and to be by Him, in time,  
redeemed, called, justified, sanctified,  
and glorified.**

**The Lord Jesus, by His perfect obedience  
and sacrifice of Himself —  
which He through the eternal Spirit  
once offered up to God —  
has fully satisfied the justice of His Father.**

**He purchased not only reconciliation  
but also an everlasting inheritance  
in the kingdom of heaven  
for all those whom the Father has given to Him.**

# 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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## **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

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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.