



Ascension PCA

July 4, 2021

**THE
HEART
OF CHRIST**



**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

*"The purest joy in the world is joy in Christ Jesus.
When the Spirit is poured down,
His people get very near and clear views of the Lord Jesus.
They eat His flesh and drink His blood.
They come to a personal cleaving to the Lord.
They taste that the Lord is gracious.
His blood and righteousness appear infinitely perfect,
full and free to their soul.
They sit under His shadow with great delight...
They lean on the Beloved.
They find infinite strength in Him
for the use of their soul — grace for grace —
all they can need in any hour of trial and suffering
to the very end."*

~ Robert Murray M'Cheyne

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 Psalm 27

**P: One thing we ask of the LORD,
this is what we seek:
that we may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of our lives,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to seek Him in His temple.**

**For in the day of trouble
He will keep us safe in His dwelling;
He will hide us in the shelter of His tabernacle
and set us high upon a rock.**

**Then our heads will be exalted
above the enemies who surround us;
at His tabernacle will we sacrifice
with shouts of joy;
We will sing and make music to the LORD.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

**Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise.
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.**

**Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend.
He shall die, to dust returning,
And His purposes shall end.**

**Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blessed whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.**

**Heav'n and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.**

**Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free.
Raises those bowed down with anguish,
Makes the sightless eye to see.**

**Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and widow,
Judgment on the wicked sends.**

**Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.**

**Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, your God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing.**

Words from *The Psalter* (1912)

Music: Gregorian chant, arr. by Lowell Mason (1839)

PUBLIC DOMAIN

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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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.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:27-45

²⁷ Just then His disciples came back. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"

²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?"

³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to Him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them, and He stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of His word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

⁴³ After the two days He departed for Galilee. ⁴⁴ (For Jesus Himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) ⁴⁵ So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that He had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Psalm 79:8–9

**P: Do not remember against us
our former iniquities;
let Your compassion come speedily to meet us,
for we are brought very low.
Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of Your name;
deliver us, and atone for our sins,
for Your name's sake!**

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

from Romans 3:22; Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 21

**M: Righteousness from God comes through faith
in Jesus Christ to all who believe.**

**P: By faith I have a deep-rooted assurance,
created in me by the Holy Spirit
through the gospel,
that, out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ,
not only others, but I too,
have had my sins forgiven,
have been made forever right with God,
and have been granted salvation.**

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.***

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

1 Corinthians 13:1–8a

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends.

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 Heart of Christ”

Mr. Austin Clement

PRAYER

SERMON NOTES

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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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.