



# Ascension PCA

September 19, 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

*He came the first time to die;  
He is coming again to raise the dead.  
When He came the first time,  
they questioned whether He was King;  
the next time the world will know  
that He is King of kings and Lord of lords.  
The first time He wore a crown of thorns;  
the next time He will be wearing a crown of glory.  
The first time He came in poverty;  
the next time He is coming in power.  
The first time He had an escort of angels;  
the next time He will come with ten thousands of His saints.  
The first time He came in meekness;  
He is coming again in majesty.*

~ Adrian Rogers

# 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

*Hebrews 1:1–3*

M: Long ago, at many times and in many ways,  
God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,

**P: but in these last days He has spoken to us  
by His Son,**

M: whom He appointed the heir of all things,  
through whom He also created the world.

**P: He is the radiance of the glory of God  
and the exact imprint of His nature,  
and He upholds the universe  
by the word of His power.**

M: After making purification for sins,  
He sat down at the right hand  
of the Majesty on high...

**P: Praise God for the gift of the Son!**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*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.  
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

## *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.**

**Crown Him the Lord of years,  
The Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
Ineffably sublime.**

**All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For Thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail  
Throughout eternity.**

Words by Matthew Bridges (1851)  
Music by George Job Elvey (1868)  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## *Come, Ye Sinners*

**Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,  
Weak and wounded, sick and sore.  
Jesus, ready, stands to save you,  
Full of pity joined with pow'r.  
He is able, He is able;  
He is willing, doubt no more.**

**Come, ye needy, come and welcome;  
God's free bounty glorify:  
True belief and true repentance,  
Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.  
Without money, without money  
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.**

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
Bruised and broken by the fall.  
If you tarry till you're better,  
You will never come at all.  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
Sinners Jesus came to call.**

Words by Joseph Hart (1759, alt.); adapted by Matthew Smith.  
Music by Matthew Smith.  
© 2000 detuned radio music

## **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.

## **OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING**

### *Jeremiah 12:1-17*

- 1 Righteous are You, O LORD,  
when I complain to You;  
yet I would plead my case before You.  
Why does the way of the wicked prosper?  
Why do all who are treacherous thrive?

2 You plant them, and they take root;  
they grow and produce fruit;  
You are near in their mouth  
and far from their heart.

3 But You, O LORD, know me;  
You see me, and test my heart toward You.  
Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter,  
and set them apart for the day of slaughter.

4 How long will the land mourn  
and the grass of every field wither?  
For the evil of those who dwell in it  
the beasts and the birds are swept away,  
because they said, "He will not see our latter end."

5 "If you have raced with men on foot, and they have  
weari ed you,  
how will you compete with horses?  
And if in a safe land you are so trusting,  
what will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?

6 For even your brothers and the house of your  
father,  
even they have dealt treacherously with you;  
they are in full cry after you;  
do not believe them,  
though they speak friendly words to you."

7 "I have forsaken My house;  
I have abandoned My heritage;  
I have given the beloved of My soul  
into the hands of her enemies.

8 My heritage has become to Me  
like a lion in the forest;  
she has lifted up her voice against Me;  
therefore I hate her.

9 Is My heritage to Me like a hyena's lair?  
Are the birds of prey against her all around?  
Go, assemble all the wild beasts;  
bring them to devour.

10 Many shepherds have destroyed My vineyard;  
they have trampled down My portion;  
they have made My pleasant portion  
a desolate wilderness.

11 They have made it a desolation;  
desolate, it mourns to Me.

The whole land is made desolate,  
but no man lays it to heart.

<sup>12</sup> Upon all the bare heights in the desert  
destroyers have come,  
for the sword of the LORD devours  
from one end of the land to the other;  
no flesh has peace.

<sup>13</sup> They have sown wheat and have reaped thorns;  
they have tired themselves out but profit nothing.  
They shall be ashamed of their harvests  
because of the fierce anger of the LORD.”

<sup>14</sup> Thus says the LORD concerning all My evil neighbors  
who touch the heritage that I have given My people  
Israel to inherit: “Behold, I will pluck them up from their  
land, and I will pluck up the house of Judah from among  
them. <sup>15</sup> And after I have plucked them up, I will again  
have compassion on them, and I will bring them again  
each to his heritage and each to his land. <sup>16</sup> And it shall  
come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of My  
people, to swear by My name, ‘As the LORD lives,’ even as  
they taught My people to swear by Baal, then they shall  
be built up in the midst of My people. <sup>17</sup> But if any nation  
will not listen, then I will utterly pluck it up and destroy it,  
declares the LORD.”

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*from The Book of Common Worship*

**P: Almighty God, who does freely pardon  
all who repent and turn to Him,  
now fulfill in every contrite heart  
the promise of redeeming grace;  
forgiving all our sins,  
and cleansing us from an evil conscience;  
through the perfect sacrifice  
of Christ Jesus 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.*

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON

M: To all who turn from sin in sorrow,  
to all who turn to God in hope,  
this is God's Word of grace:  
in Jesus, you are accepted,  
you are forgiven,  
you are loved.

# SONG OF ASSURANCE

*All I Have Is Christ*

**I once was lost in darkest night,  
Yet thought I knew the way;  
The sin that promised joy and life  
Had led me to the grave.**

**I had no hope that You would own,  
A rebel to Your will.  
And if You had not loved me first,  
I would refuse You still.**

**But as I ran my hell-bound race,  
Indifferent to the cost,  
You looked upon my helpless state  
And led me to the cross.**

**And I beheld God's love displayed,  
You suffered in my place,  
You bore the wrath reserved for me,  
Now all I know is grace.**

***Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.  
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!***

**Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone,  
And live so all might see  
The strength to follow Your commands  
Could never come from me.**

**Oh Father use my ransomed life  
In any way You choose,  
And let my song forever be  
My only boast is You.**

**Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.  
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!  
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.  
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!**

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin  
© 2008 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing )

## 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 John 1:1–4*

<sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us — <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

## 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.**



# PRAYER

## SONG OF RESPONSE

### *O Love that Will Not Let Me Go*

**O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.**

**O Light that follow'st all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.**

**O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to Thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.**

Words by George Matheson (1882). Music by Christopher Miner (1997)  
Words: Public Domain; music: ©1997 Miner, Christopher

## GOD BUILDS HIS CHURCH

### *Sacrament of Baptism*

*Matthew Colson Barrow*

- Do you acknowledge Matthew's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- Do you acknowledge that although he is conceived and born in sin, and therefore is subject to condemnation, he, as a child of believers, being born within the covenant community, is set apart in Christ, and as a member of His visible church, ought to be baptized?

- Do you realize that this sacrament does not give salvation to Matthew, but he must, by God's grace, come to faith, repentance and obedience when he reaches the age of discretion?
- Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
- Do you realize that in this sacrament you, as parents, are covenanting with God to raise Matthew in the instruction and discipline of the Lord? And do you now acknowledge that he belongs to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon His help and grace, to set before him a godly example, to pray with and for him, to teach him the doctrines of the gospel and of our holy religion, and to strive by all the means that God has appointed, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

*To the Body of Christ: (please stand)*

M: Do you as a congregation promise to undertake the responsibility of encouraging, praying for, and as God gives you opportunity, assisting Philip and Charyl in the Christian nurture of this child?

## 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 Nicene Creed*

**P: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds;  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who, for us and for our salvation,  
came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit  
of the virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day He rose again,  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father;  
and He shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and Giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And we believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church;  
we acknowledge one baptism  
for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.**

## **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

## *It Is Well with My Soul*

**When peace, like a river,  
Attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot,  
Thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."**

*It is well*            *(it is well),*  
*With my soul*    *(with my soul);*  
*It is well, it is well with my soul.*

**Though Satan should buffet,  
Though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control:  
That Christ has regarded  
My helpless estate,  
And has shed His own blood for my soul.**

*It is well*            *(it is well),*  
*With my soul*    *(with my soul);*  
*It is well, it is well with my soul.*

**My sin — O the bliss  
Of this glorious thought! —  
My sin — not in part, but the whole —  
Is nailed to the cross,  
And I bear it no more;  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!**

*It is well*            *(it is well),*  
*With my soul*    *(with my soul);*  
*It is well, it is well with my soul.*

**And Lord, haste the day  
When my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound,  
And the Lord shall descend;  
Even so, it is well with my soul.**

***It is well***            *(it is well),*  
***With my soul***      *(with my soul);*  
***It is well, it is well with my soul.***

Words by Horatio Gates Spafford (1873)  
Philip P. Bliss (1876)  
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.**

Song lyrics reproduced by permission: CCL#11181050

Scripture text from

The Holy Bible, **English Standard Version.**

©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

Holy Bible, **New International Version®**, NIV®

Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.



# **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

**Meeting Address:**

8224 220<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98026

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 838, Lynnwood, WA 98046

**APC Office:**

Mon & Wed & Fri (9:00AM–5:00PM)

(425) 286-8617

*office@ascension-pca.org*

## **STAFF & LEADERSHIP**

PASTOR:

**Rev. Nate Hitchcock**     *nate@ascension-pca.org*

ASSISTANT PASTOR:

**Rev. Edward Volz**     *volz.edw@gmail.com*

PASTORAL INTERN:

**Austin Clement**     *clement.austin@gmail.com*

OFFICE MANAGER:

**Rina Kroes**     *office@ascension-pca.org*

ELDERS:

**Brett Chase**     *brett@ascension-pca.org*

**Bob Miller**     *bob@ascension-pca.org*

**Bo Stocklin**     *bostocklin@ascension-pca.org*

**Chris Sledge**     *chris@ascension-pca.org*

**Theo Vander Wel**     *theo@ascension-pca.org*

DEACONS:

**Peter Contreras**     *peter@ascension-pca.org*

**Fred Wilson**     *fred@ascension-pca.org*

**Kyle Bartlett**     *kyle@ascension-pca.org*

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

**Leandra Howell**     *leandra.m.howell@gmail.com*

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR:

**Monica Sledge**     *cmkesledge@gmail.com*

MEAL COORDINATOR:

**Sheila Bloedow**     *s.bloedow@comcast.net*

NURSERY COORDINATOR:

**Rebecca Wheeler**     *dieseltheboxer@hotmail.com*

### **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.