



Ascension PCA

January 9, 2022



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

Almighty God,

*Fill my mind with elevation and grandeur at the thought of a Being
with whom one day is as a thousand years,
and a thousand years as one day.*

*A mighty God, who amidst the lapse of worlds,
and the revolutions of empires,
feels no variableness,
but is glorious in immortality.*

*May I rejoice that, while men die, the Lord lives;
that, while all creatures are broken reeds, empty cisterns,
fading flowers, withering grass,
He is the Rock of Ages, the Fountain of living waters.*

*Turn my heart from vanity, from dissatisfactions,
from uncertainties of the present state,
to an eternal interest in Christ.*

~ from the Valley of Vision

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

M: Oh, the depth of the riches
of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable His judgments,
and His paths beyond tracing out!
“Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been His counselor?
Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay him?”

**P: 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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise Him, for He is
thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things
so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea,
so gently sustaineth!**

**Hast thou not seen
How thy desires e’er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?**

...

**Praise to the Lord, who with
marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health and with
loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief
Hath not He brought thee relief
Spreading His wings to o'er shade thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that
is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him.
Let the amen
Sound from His people again,
Gladly fore'er we adore Him!**

Words by Joachim Neander (1680); tr. by Catherine Winkworth (1863)
Music from *Stralsund Gesangbuch* (1665)
PUBLIC DOMAIN

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.***

**The sun comes up,
it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass,
and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.***

**You're rich in love,
and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness,
I will keep on singing:
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.**

...

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.***

**And on that day
when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing
Your praise unending:
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.**

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.
I'll worship Your holy name.***

Words and music by Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin
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worshipitogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).

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

Hebrews 1:1-12

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. ³ 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. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

...

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,
 “You are My Son,
 today I have begotten You”?

Or again,

 “I will be to Him a father,
 and He shall be to Me a son”?

⁶ And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world,
He says,

 “Let all God’s angels worship Him.”

⁷ Of the angels He says,

 “He makes His angels winds,
 and His ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸ But of the Son He says,

 “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
 the scepter of uprightness is the scepter
 of Your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.”

¹⁰ And,

 “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth
 in the beginning,
 and the heavens are the work of Your hands;
¹¹ they will perish, but You remain;
 they will all wear out like a garment,
¹² like a robe You will roll them up,
 like a garment they will be changed.
But You are the same,
 and Your years will have no end.”

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from the Valley of Vision

**P: Thou Great I AM, we acknowledge and confess that
all things come from You —
life, breath, happiness, sight, touch, hearing,
goodness, truth, beauty.**

...

**Give us grace to know more of our need of grace;
Show us our sinfulness
that we may willingly confess it;
reveal to us our weakness
that we may know our strength in You.
We need healing, Good Physician,
come and manifest Your power;
We need faith; You who have given it to us,
maintain, strengthen, increase it,
center it upon the Savior's work,
upon the majesty of the Father,
upon the operations of the Spirit;
Work in us now that we may never doubt You
as the truthful, mighty, faithful God.
Then we can bring our hearts to You
full of love, gratitude, hope, joy.
Through Jesus we plead, 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.*

PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

Matthew 11:28,29

M: "Come to Me, all who labor
and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.
Take My yoke upon you,
and learn from Me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For My yoke is easy,
and My burden is light."

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

**Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and power.**

***I will arise and go to Jesus!
He will save me from my sin.
By the riches of His merit,
There is joy and life in Him.***

**Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.**

***I will arise and go to Jesus!
He will save me from my sin.
By the riches of His merit,
There is joy and life in Him.***

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.**

***I will arise and go to Jesus!
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
Oh, there are ten thousand charms.***

**Lo! The incarnate God ascended
Pleads the merit of His blood;
Venture on Him, venture wholly;
Let no other trust intrude.**

***I will arise and go to Jesus!
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
Oh, there are ten thousand charms.***

Words by Joseph Hart (1759, alt.)
Music by William Walker, *The Southern Harmony* (1835)
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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD

Psalm 24

1 The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
2 for He has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in His holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
5 He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 Such is the generation of those who seek Him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

8 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!

9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

10 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
He is the King of glory!

Selah

SONG OF RESPONSE

The Lord is My Salvation

**The grace of God has reached for me,
And pulled me from the raging sea.
And I am safe on this solid ground:
The Lord is my salvation.**

**I will not fear when darkness falls,
His strength will help me scale these walls.
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun:
The Lord is my salvation.**

***Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won:
The Lord is my salvation.***

**My hope is hidden in the Lord,
He flow'rs each promise of His Word.
When winter fades, I know spring will come:
The Lord is my salvation.**

**In times of waiting, times of need,
When I know loss, when I am weak,
I know His grace will renew these days:
The Lord is my salvation.**

***Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won:
The Lord is my salvation.***

**And when I reach the final day,
He will not leave me in the grave,
But I will rise, He will call me home:
The Lord is my salvation!**

***Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won:
The Lord is my salvation.***

**Glory be to God, the Father.
Glory be to God, the Son.
Glory be to God, the Spirit.
The Lord is our salvation.**

...

**Glory be to God, the Father.
Glory be to God, the Son.
Glory be to God, the Spirit.
The Lord is our salvation.**

Words and music by Jonas Myrin | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty | Nathan Nockels
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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.

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.

SONG OF MEDITATION

My Jesus, I Love Thee

**My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death;
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say, when the death-dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown upon my brow:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

Words by William R. Featherstone (1864). Music by Adoniram J. Gordon (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.**



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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

Meeting Address:

8224 220th 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 INTERNS:

Austin Clement *clement.austin@gmail.com*

Philip Suh *philipsuh@outlook.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.