



# Ascension PCA

January 16, 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

*Grant, Almighty God, that as You invite us daily by various means to repentance, and continue also to urge us, because You see our extreme tardiness — O grant that we may at length be awakened from our indifference, and do not allow us to be inebriated by the charms of Satan and the world; but by Your Spirit rouse us to real groaning, that, being ashamed of ourselves, we may flee to Your mercy, and doubt not but that You will be favorable to us, provided with a sincere heart we call on You, and seek that reconciliation which You daily offer to us by Your Gospel in the name of Your only begotten Son. Amen.*

~ John Calvin

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

# 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

*Psalm 121*

M: I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From where does my help come?

**P: My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.**

M: He will not let your foot be moved;  
He who keeps you will not slumber.

**P: Behold, He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

M: The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
He will keep your life.  
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.

**P: Praise be to our God!**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
In light inaccessible  
Hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious,  
The Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious,  
Thy great name we praise.**

...

**Unresting, unhasting,  
And silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting,  
Thou rulest in might.  
Thy justice, like mountains  
High soaring above;  
Thy clouds which are fountains  
Of goodness and love.**

**Great Father of glory,  
Pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee,  
All veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render,  
O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor  
Of light hideth Thee!**

Traditional Welsh hymn  
Words by Walter Chalmers Smith (1867)  
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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## **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**

***Revelation 19:1-16***

<sup>1</sup> After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out,

"Hallelujah!

<sup>2</sup> Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for His judgments are true and just; for He has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of His servants."

• • •

<sup>3</sup> Once more they cried out,

“Hallelujah!

The smoke from her goes up forever and ever.”

<sup>4</sup> And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, “Amen. Hallelujah!” <sup>5</sup> And from the throne came a voice saying,

“Praise our God,  
all you His servants,  
you who fear Him,  
small and great.”

<sup>6</sup> Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!  
For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.

<sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult  
and give Him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and His Bride has made herself ready;

<sup>8</sup> it was granted her to clothe herself  
with fine linen, bright and pure”

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

<sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”

<sup>10</sup> Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written that no one knows but Himself. <sup>13</sup> He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is The Word of God.

...

<sup>14</sup> And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following Him on white horses.

<sup>15</sup> From His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. <sup>16</sup> On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Most holy and merciful Father,  
we confess to You and to one another:  
That we have sinned by our own fault  
in thought, word and deed;  
against Your holy law 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.**

**We have not forgiven others  
as we have been forgiven.**

**We have been deaf to Your call to serve,  
as Christ served us.**

**We have not been true to the mind of Christ.**

**We have grieved Your Holy Spirit.**

**We confess to You, Lord,  
all our past unfaithfulness:  
the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord, and forgive our sins,  
through Jesus 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.*

# PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

*Micah 7:18-19*

M: Who is a God like You, who pardons sin  
and forgives the transgression  
of the remnant of His inheritance?  
You do not stay angry forever,  
but delight to show mercy.  
You will again have compassion on us;  
You will tread our sins underfoot.  
and hurl all our iniquities  
into the depths of the sea.

# SONG OF ASSURANCE

*Speak, O Lord*

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You,  
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness;  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.**

**Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail —  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us —  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.**

**And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built,  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.**

# 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 85*

- 1 LORD, You were favorable to Your land;  
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of Your people;  
you covered all their sin. *Selah*
- 3 You withdrew all Your wrath;  
You turned from Your hot anger.
- 4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away Your indignation toward us!
- 5 Will You be angry with us forever?  
Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?
- 6 Will You not revive us again,  
that Your people may rejoice in You?
- 7 Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,  
and grant us Your salvation.
- 8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
for He will speak peace to His people, to His  
saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.
- 9 Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- 11 Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- 12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness will go before Him  
and make His footsteps a way.





# 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 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 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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