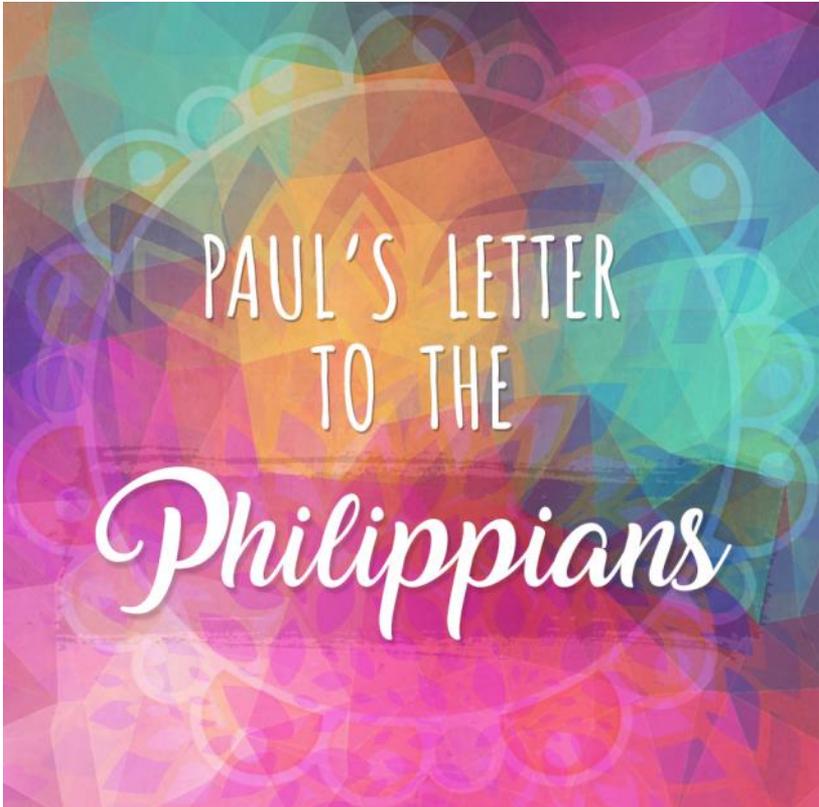




Ascension PCA

January 30, 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

*Most merciful Father,  
I give You all praise and thanks and glory,  
for You have been pleased to give me, a miserable sinner,  
so excellent a gift and treasure,  
as to be received into the fellowship and company  
of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, my Lord.  
I pray now that You would grant this request —  
that You would never allow me to grow so callous  
as to forget Your many blessings,  
but rather, imprint and fix them firmly in my heart,  
that I may grow and increase daily,  
more and more, in true faith. Amen.*

~ John Knox

## 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.**

## 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

*1 Corinthians 1:3; Psalm 91:1; Psalm 37:7a*

**M: Grace to you and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.  
Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him.**

# SONGS OF PRAISE

*Holy, Holy, Holy!*

**Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning  
our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy!  
All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea.  
Cherubim and seraphim  
falling down before Thee,  
Who wert, and art,  
and evermore shall be.**

**Holy, holy, holy!  
Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man  
Thy glory may not see.  
Only Thou art holy;  
there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r,  
in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name  
in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessed Trinity!  
God in three Persons,  
blessed Trinity!**

Words by Reginald Heber (1783–1826)  
Music by John B. Dykes (1861)  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## *Our Great God*

**Eternal God, unchanging,  
mysterious and unknown;  
Your boundless love, unfailing,  
in grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in endless flight  
around Your glorious throne;  
They raise their voices day and night  
in praise to You alone.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

**Lord, we are weak and frail,  
helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with Your angels,  
hold us in Your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
before our Sovereign God.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

**Let every creature in the sea  
and every flying bird,  
Let every mountain, every field  
and valley of the earth;  
Let all the moons and all the stars  
in all the universe  
Sing praises to the living God  
who rules them by His Word.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

Words & music by Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell  
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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.

## OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

### *Jeremiah 17:19–27*

<sup>19</sup> Thus said the LORD to me: "Go and stand in the People's Gate, by which the kings of Judah enter and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem, <sup>20</sup> and say: 'Hear the word of the LORD, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, who enter by these gates. <sup>21</sup> Thus says the LORD: Take care for the sake of your lives, and do not bear a burden on the Sabbath day or bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> And do not carry a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath or do any work, but keep the Sabbath day holy, as I commanded your fathers. <sup>23</sup> Yet they did not listen or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck, that they might not hear and receive instruction.

<sup>24</sup> "But if you listen to Me, declares the LORD, and bring in no burden by the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but keep the Sabbath day holy and do no work on it, <sup>25</sup> then there shall enter by the gates of this city kings and princes who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their officials, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And this city shall be inhabited forever. <sup>26</sup> And people shall come from the cities of Judah and the places around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the Shephelah, from the hill country, and from the Negeb, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and frankincense, and bringing thank offerings to the house of the LORD. <sup>27</sup> But if you do not listen to Me, to keep the Sabbath day holy, and not to bear a burden and enter by the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem and shall not be quenched."

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Father, it is only right for us  
to acknowledge our sin.**

**O merciful Father, do not deal with us  
according to what we deserve,  
nor judge us too rigorously,  
but give Your grace that we may live  
in such a way  
that Your holy Name may be hallowed  
and sanctified in us.**

**Guard our hearts,  
so that we neither do, nor speak —  
in fact, that we neither think nor intend —  
anything but that which will bring You  
honor and praise.**

**Above all things, may we seek  
the honor and glory of Your Name,  
and not our own.**

**By Your great power, bring us, Your children,  
to love and revere You as our heavenly Father.  
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

*John 14:1-6*

**M: "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God;  
believe also in me. In my Father's house are many  
rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that  
I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and  
prepare a place for you, I will come again and will  
take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.  
And you know the way to where I am going."  
Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where  
You are going. How can we know the way?"  
Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth,  
and the life. No one comes to the Father except  
through Me."**

# SONG OF ASSURANCE

## *Be Still, My Soul*

**Be still, my soul:  
The Lord is on your side;  
Bear patiently  
The cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to your God  
To order and provide;  
In every change,  
He faithful will remain.**

***Be still, my soul:  
Your best, your heavenly Friend  
Through thorny ways  
Leads to a joyful end.***

**Be still, my soul:  
Your God will undertake  
To guide the future,  
As He has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence  
Let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious  
Shall be bright at last.**

***Be still, my soul:  
The waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them  
While He dwelt with us below.***

**Be still, my soul:  
The hour is hastening on  
When we shall be  
Forever with the Lord.  
When disappointment,  
Grief and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot,  
Love's purest joys restored.**

***Be still, my soul:  
When change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed  
We shall meet at last.***

# 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

*Philippians 1:3-11*

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,  
<sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup> so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

### 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.**





# SONG OF RESPONSE

## *He Will Hold Me Fast*

**When I fear my faith will fail,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail,  
He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold;  
He must hold me fast.**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.***

**Those He saves are His delight,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight,  
He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost;  
His promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost,  
He will hold me fast.**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.***

**For my life He bled and died,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied,  
He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life;  
He will hold me fast;  
'Till our faith is turned to sight,  
When He comes at last!**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.***

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.***

# 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

*taken from "The Lord's Supper", The Valley of Vision*

**P: God of all good,**

**You have prepared for us a feast;  
and though we are unworthy  
to sit down as guests,  
we wholly rest on the merits of Jesus  
and hide beneath His righteousness.**

**While we gaze upon the emblems  
of our Savior's death,  
may we ponder why He died, and hear Him say,**

***"I gave My life to purchase yours,  
presented Myself an offering to expiate your sin,  
shed My blood to blot out your guilt,  
opened My side to make you clean,  
endured your curses to set you free,  
bore your condemnation to satisfy divine justice."***

**In the supper we remember  
His eternal love, boundless grace,  
infinite compassion, agony, cross, redemption,  
and receive assurance of pardon,  
adoption, life, glory.**

**As the outward elements nourish our bodies,  
may Your indwelling Spirit invigorate our souls,  
until that day when we hunger and thirst  
no more,  
and sit with Jesus at His heavenly feast. 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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Mon & Wed & Fri (9:00AM–5:00PM)

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and that any automatic payments are being sent  
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