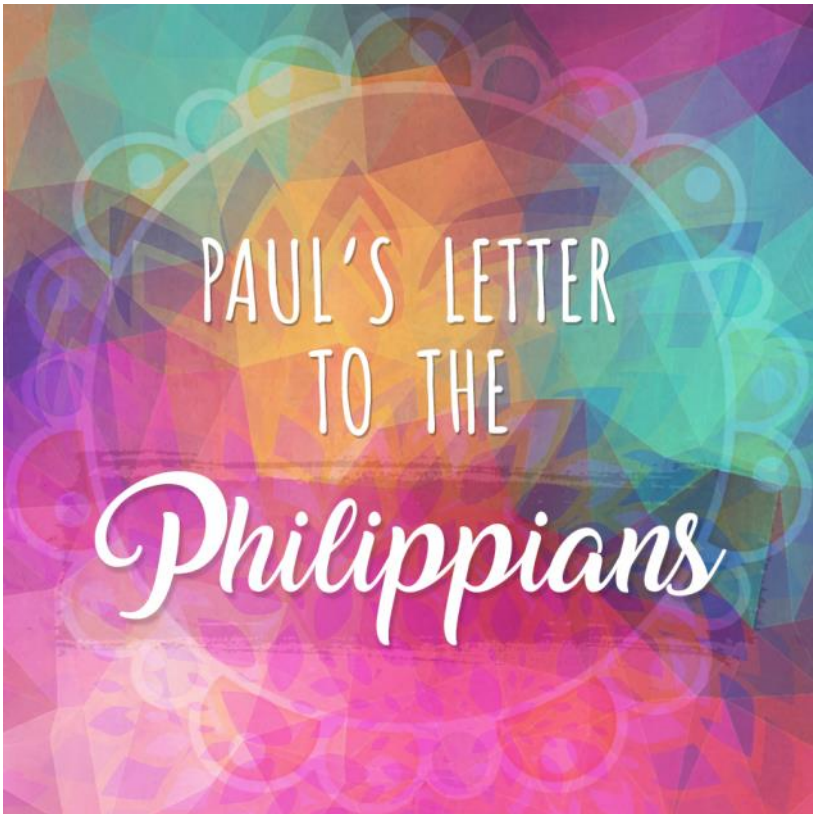




Ascension PCA

February 6, 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

*How sweet and awesome is the place,
with Christ within the doors;
While everlasting love displays,
the choicest of her stores.*

*While all our hearts and all our songs
join to admire the feast;
Each of us cry, with thankful tongues,
“Lord why was I a guest?”*

*“Why was I made to hear Thy voice,
and enter while there’s room;
When thousands make a wretched choice,
and rather starve than come?”*

*“Twas the same love that spread the feast
that sweetly drew us in;
Else we had still refused to taste,
and perished in our sin.*

*Pity the nations O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
Send Thy victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.*

*We long to see Thy churches full,
that all the chosen race,
may with one voice and heart and soul,
sing Thy redeeming grace.*

~ *How Sweet and Awesome is the Place* by Isaac Watts

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

1 Timothy 6:13–16

M: I charge you in the presence of God,
 who gives life to all things,
 and of Christ Jesus,
 who in His testimony before Pontius Pilate
 made the good confession,
 to keep the commandment unstained
 and free from reproach
 until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 which He will display at the proper time —
He who is the blessed and only Sovereign,
 the King of kings and Lord of lords,
 who alone has immortality,
 who dwells in unapproachable light,
 whom no one has ever seen or can see.
To Him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Come, Holy One

**Hasten now,
 O loving Lord to us,
 We're thirsty.**

**Fill these souls,
 Spirit, every hour,
 We need Thee.**

***Come, come Holy One,
 Come meet us.
All, all for Your glory,
 Lord Jesus.***

**Lead us on,
The perfect path O Lord,
And may we
Sin no more,
This spotless bride, the Church,
Is Yours.**

***Come, come Holy One,
Come meet us.
All, all for Your glory,
Lord Jesus.***

***Come, come Holy One,
Come meet us.
All, all for Your glory,
Lord Jesus.***

Words & music by Eric J. Marshall
© 2016 Scot Family Reunion Songs (BMI)

This Is Our God

**God our Father, full of power,
Maker of the heavens,
Maker of the world.
Forming all things, seen and unseen,
Truly the Almighty
Beyond all measure worth;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!***

***We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

**Our Lord Jesus sent to save us,
Born unto a virgin,
Lived a perfect life.
Greatly suffered, dying for us.
From the grave He's risen,
Seated now on high;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!
We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

**Spirit, holy, One in glory,
Speaking through the prophets,
Empowering the Church.
Life is given by and through Him,
With the Son and Father,
Worshipped and adored;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son;
This is our God!
We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim:
This is our God!***

Inspired by the Nicene Creed (325 A.D.)
Words & music by Dave Fournier, Doug Plank, George Romanacce, Neil DeGraide, Zach Jones
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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 18:1-17

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² "Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear My words." ³ So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶ "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel. ⁷ If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸ and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. ⁹ And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰ and if it does evil in My sight, not listening to My voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹ Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: 'Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.'

¹² "But they say, 'That is in vain! We will follow our own plans, and will every one act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.'

¹³ "Therefore thus says the LORD:

Ask among the nations,
Who has heard the like of this?
The virgin Israel

¹⁴ has done a very horrible thing.
Does the snow of Lebanon leave
the crags of Sirion?

Do the mountain waters run dry,
the cold flowing streams?

¹⁵ But My people have forgotten Me;
they make offerings to false gods;
they made them stumble in their ways,
in the ancient roads,
and to walk into side roads,

¹⁶ not the highway,
making their land a horror,
a thing to be hissed at forever.

Everyone who passes by it is horrified
and shakes his head.

¹⁷ Like the east wind I will scatter them
before the enemy.
I will show them My back, not My face,
in the day of their calamity."

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Father, when Your Church has reflected Your grace,
Opposing views have been covered by love;
Sinners have been welcomed;
The weak have been carried by the strong;
Broken people have been reclaimed;
But recently, we seem to have lost our way:
We have let political differences divide us.
We have been slow to welcome —
 quick to condemn —
 those who disagree with us.
We have written-off opposing members
 of Christ's body.
Father, we have sinned in regard to
 your most basic commands!
We have not demonstrated the unity
 Jesus prayed for;
We have not forgiven as You have forgiven us;
We have not carried one another's burdens;
We have not treasured and protected
 the least of your children;
We have treated others as enemies
 whom we do not need.
O Lord, forgive us for allowing the world's
 controversies to divide Your Church.
Renew in us the love and grace of our Savior;
Humble us till we will sacrifice ourselves
 to reclaim a broken brother;
Fill us with your Spirit
 until the whole world can see
 the love of Jesus here.
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

Ephesians 1:7-8 & Isaiah 12:1-2

M: In Christ we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of sins,
in accordance with the riches of God's grace
that He lavished on us
with all wisdom and understanding.

**P: We will praise you, O LORD.
Although You were angry with us,
Your anger has turned away
and You have comforted us.
Surely God is our salvation;
we will trust and not be afraid.**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

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 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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

READING OF THE WORD

Philippians 1:12–18a

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

SONG OF RESPONSE

Jesus, Thank You

**The myst'ry of the cross I cannot comprehend,
The agonies of Calvary.**

**You the perfect, Holy One, crushed Your Son
Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me.**

*Your blood has washed away my sin;
Jesus, thank You.*

*The Father's wrath completely satisfied;
Jesus, thank You.*

*Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table;
Jesus, thank You.*

**By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near;
Your enemy You've made Your friend.**

**Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace,
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end.**

*Your blood has washed away my sin;
Jesus, thank You.*

*The Father's wrath completely satisfied;
Jesus, thank You.*

*Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table;
Jesus, thank You.*

Words and music by Pat Szebel
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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

How Sweet and Awesome is the Place

**How sweet and awesome is the place
with Christ within the doors,
While everlasting love displays
the choicest of her stores.**

**While all our hearts and all our songs
join to admire the feast,
Each of us cries, with thankful tongue,
"Lord, why was I a guest?"**

**"Why was I made to hear Your voice,
and enter while there's room,
When thousands make a wretched choice,
and rather starve than come?"**

**'Twas the same love that spread the feast
that sweetly drew us in;
Else we had still refused to taste,
and perished in our sin.**

**Pity the nations, O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
Send Your victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.**

**We long to see Your whole church full,
that all the chosen race
May, with one voice and heart and soul,
sing Your redeeming grace.**

Words by Isaac Watts (1707; Alt. 1961, 1990, mod.)
Old Irish hymn melody (alt. 1990)
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-PCA.ORG

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

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Please make sure that checks are made out to
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