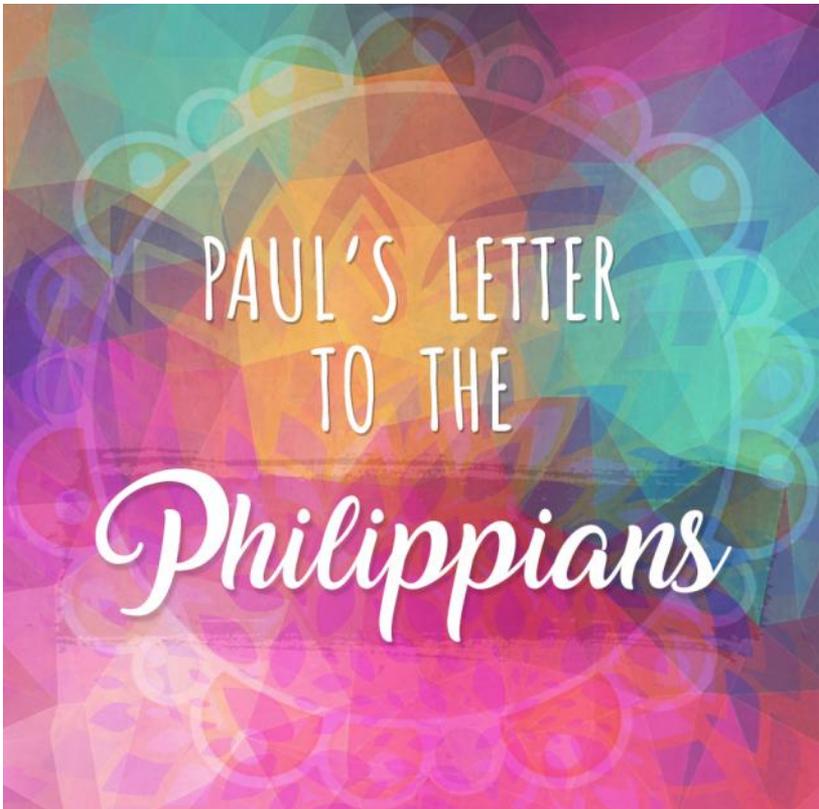




Ascension PCA

March 20, 2022



PAUL'S LETTER
TO THE
Philippians

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

*One there is above all others, well deserves the name of Friend.
His is love beyond a brother's, costly, free, and knows no end.
They who once His kindness prove, find it everlasting love.*

*Which of all our friends, to save us, could or would have shed their blood?
But our Jesus died to have us, reconciled in Him to God.
This was boundless love indeed, Jesus is a Friend in need.*

*When He lived on earth abased, Friend of sinners was His name.
Now above all glory raised, He rejoices in the same.
Still He calls them brethren, friends, and to all their wants attends.*

*Could we bear from one another, what He daily bears from us?
Yet this glorious Friend and Brother, loves us though we treat Him thus.
Though for good we render ill, He accounts us brethren still.*

*Oh for grace our hearts to soften! Teach us, Lord, at length to love!
We, alas, forget too often, what a Friend we have above.
But when home our souls are brought, we will love Thee as we ought.*

~ John Newton

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

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

Isaiah 57:15, John 4:23

M: For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite
and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.”

P: **But the hour is coming, and is now here,
when the true worshipers will worship
the Father
in spirit and truth,
for the Father is seeking such people
to worship Him.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Great Is Our God

**Come let us praise Him,
Let us kneel at the throne of our God.
Through His Son our salvation was bought
With mercy and grace.**

**Come let us bow down,
In His hands are the depths of the earth.
With one voice we proclaim His great worth,
Lord our God!**

***And we will seek Him,
our Rock of Salvation.
Morning by morning
with thanksgiving we come.***

...

***And we will bow down,
with creation we cry out.
In daylight and darkness
we sing to the Lord.***

***Great is our God,
Great is our God,
Great is our God.***

**Lord of all nations,
We will stand at the end of our days
In Your courts and declare Your great ways,
In Spirit and Truth.**

**We long for Your kingdom,
Bring Your thunder and gather the earth.
All who tremble will tell of Your worth,
Lord our God!**

***And we will seek Him,
our Rock of Salvation.
Morning by morning
with thanksgiving we come.
And we will bow down,
with creation we cry out.
In daylight and darkness
we sing to the Lord.***

***And we will seek Him,
our Rock of Salvation.
Morning by morning
with thanksgiving we come.
And we will bow down,
with creation we cry out.
In daylight and darkness
we sing to the Lord.***

***Great is our God,
Great is our God,
Great is our God.***

Words and music by Eric Marshall
© 2011 Scot Family Reunion Songs (BMI)

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

**My faith has found a resting place,
Not in device nor creed;
I trust the ever-living One,
His wounds for me shall plead.**

***I need no other argument,
I need no other plea;
It is enough that Jesus died
And that He died for me.***

**Enough for me that Jesus saves,
This ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul I come to Him,
He'll never cast me out.**

***I need no other argument,
I need no other plea;
It is enough that Jesus died
And that He died for me.***

**My great Physician heals the sick,
The lost He came to save;
For me His precious blood He shed,
For me His life He gave.**

***I need no other argument,
I need no other plea;
It is enough that Jesus died
And that He died for me.***

Words by Lidie H. Edmunds (1891; Alt. 1990)
Music by André Grétry (1741-1831); arr. by William J. Kirkpatrick (1891)
PUBLIC DOMAIN

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 22:1-10

¹ Thus says the LORD: "Go down to the house of the king of Judah and speak there this word, ² and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, who sits on the throne of David, you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates. ³ Thus says the LORD: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. ⁴ For if you will indeed obey this word, then there shall enter the gates of this house kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their servants and their people. ⁵ But if you will not obey these words, I swear by Myself, declares the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation. ⁶ For thus says the LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah:

"You are like Gilead to me,
like the summit of Lebanon,
yet surely I will make you a desert,
an uninhabited city.

⁷ I will prepare destroyers against you,
each with his weapons,
and they shall cut down your choicest cedars
and cast them into the fire.

⁸ "And many nations will pass by this city, and every man will say to his neighbor, "Why has the LORD dealt thus with this great city?" ⁹ And they will answer, "Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God and worshiped other gods and served them."""

¹⁰ Weep not for him who is dead,
nor grieve for him,
but weep bitterly for him who goes away,
for he shall return no more
to see his native land.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word and deed,
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.
In Your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your holy name.
Through 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.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Luke 1

**M: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for He has visited and redeemed His people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David...
to give knowledge of salvation to His people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God...**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

His Mercy is More

**What love could remember
no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing,
He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea
without bottom or shore;
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more.**

***Praise the Lord,
His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness,
New every morn,
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more!***

**What patience would wait
as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender,
is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest,
the vilest, the poor.
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more.**

***Praise the Lord,
His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness,
New every morn,
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more!***

**What riches of kindness
He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment,
His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt
we could never afford.
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more.**

***Praise the Lord,
His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness,
New every morn,
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more!***

Music and words by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
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Publishing | Messenger Hymns

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 2:1–11

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

⁸ And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

...

⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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.**

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“Humiliation & Exaltation”

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

SERMON NOTES: _____

PRAYER

SONG OF RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

**May the mind of Christ, my Savior
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and pow'r controlling
All I do and say.**

**May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His pow'r.**

**May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing:
This is victory.**

**May His beauty rest upon me
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.**

Words by Kate B. Wilkinson (1925).
Music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould (1925; alt. 1990)
PUBLIC DOMAIN

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

As A Beggar I Come To Thee

**As a beggar, I come to Thee,
As a beggar, I come to Thee,
With empty hands, without one plea,
As a beggar, I come to Thee.**

...

**At Thy table I find a feast,
At Thy table I find a feast,
Here come the poor, the lame, the least,
At Thy table, I find a feast.**

**Precious Savior, how can it be?
Precious Savior, how can it be?
Thine own dear blood was shed for me!
Precious Savior, how can it be?**

**All my days, Lord, Thy will be done,
All my days, Lord, Thy will be done,
Long I to see Thy kingdom come,
All my days, Lord, Thy will be done.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, O quickly come!
Come, Lord Jesus, O quickly come!
With lifted hearts, our prayer is sung:
Come, Lord Jesus, O quickly come!**

**With lifted hearts, our prayer is sung:
Come, Lord Jesus, O quickly come!**

Music and words by Luke Morton
© 2012 Walk Out of the Grave Music

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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