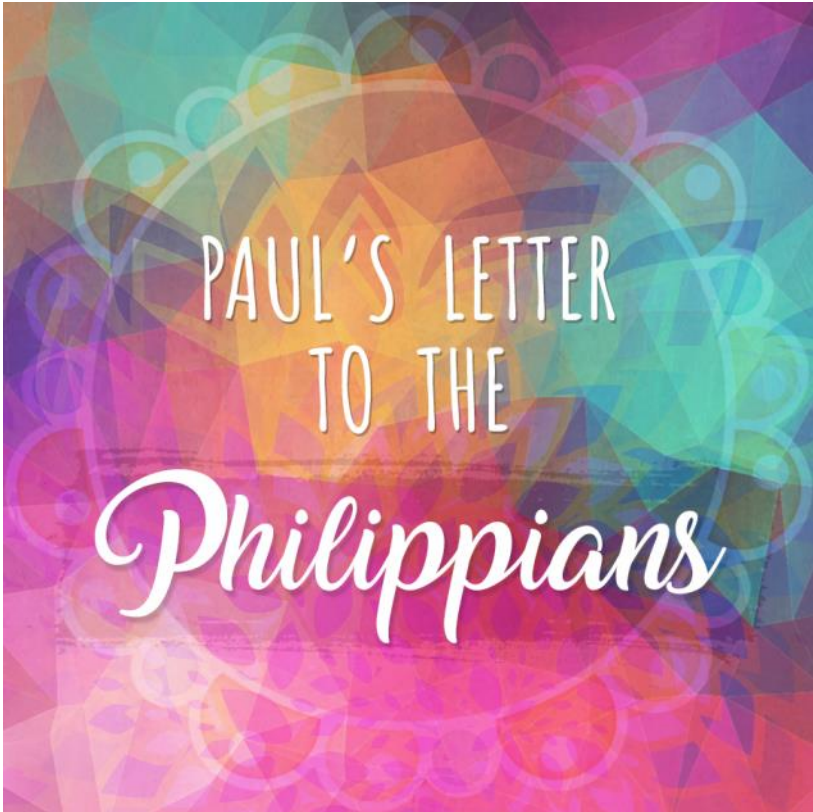




Ascension PCA

May 15, 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

O Lord, give me in rich abundance
the blessings the Lord's Day was designed to impart;
May my heart be fast bound against worldly thoughts or cares;
Flood my mind with peace beyond understanding;
may my meditations be sweet,
my acts of worship life, liberty, joy,
my drink the streams that flow from Your throne,
my food the precious Word,
my defense the shield of faith,
and may my heart be more knit to Jesus.

~ *The Lord's Day*, abridged from *The Valley of Vision*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

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

Deuteronomy 7:9 & 32:4

**M: The LORD your God is God; He is the faithful God,
keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations
of those who love Him and keep His commands.**

**P: He is the Rock, His works are perfect,
and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong,
upright and just is He.**

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
PUBLIC DOMAIN

Oh, How Good It Is

**Oh, how good it is
When the family of God
Dwells together in spirit,
In faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace,
Of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence
Here among us.**

***So with one voice
We'll sing to the Lord;
And with one heart
We'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.***

**Oh, how good it is
On this journey we share,
To rejoice with the happy
And weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength,
The afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing
Of belonging.**

***So with one voice
We'll sing to the Lord;
And with one heart
We'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.***

**Oh, how good it is
To embrace His command
To prefer one another,
Forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one,
We all share in the love
Of the Son, with the Father,
And the Spirit.**

***So with one voice
We'll sing to the Lord;
And with one heart
We'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.***

Words & music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend
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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 26:1–15

¹ In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD: ² “Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. ³ It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. ⁴ You shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to Me, to walk in My law that I have set before you, ⁵ and to listen to the words of My servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, ⁶ then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.’”

⁷ The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD.

⁸ And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹ Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰ When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹ Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

¹² Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³ Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that He has pronounced against you. ¹⁴ But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵ Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: God of all mercy,
we come to humble ourselves this morning,
confessing our sin and unfaithfulness.**

**Like Your disciples of old,
we have boasted of our faith
only to sleep when we should be praying,
and to abandon You
when we should be following close.**

**We have claimed great allegiance to You,
but You know how weak and timid
our faith really is,
how quickly we fall apart in the face of trouble.**

**Thank You, Lord Jesus, for not being like us,
for remaining faithful
even when we have abandoned You,
for drinking the cup of God's wrath
which we could not have endured,
for going alone to judgment
that we might escape it.**

Thank You for becoming our Savior.

**Now wash us anew,
by the blood which You shed for our atonement
and restore our souls
by the life-giving Spirit
in whose power You were raised from the dead.
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

1 Peter 3:18

M: For Christ also suffered once for sins,
the righteous for the unrighteous
that He might bring us to God.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

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 Sczebel
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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 4:1-5

¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

² I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord.

³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;...

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

"People of Peace"

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

PRAYER

GIVING TO THE LORD

Matthew 6:31-33

“Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’
or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’
For the pagans run after all these things,
and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.
But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.”

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

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

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

from the Belgic Confession, Art. 35

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ has ordained and instituted this Holy Supper to nourish and sustain those who are born again and grafted into His family: His church.

Christ has instituted an earthly and visible bread as the sacrament of his body and wine as the sacrament of His blood.

**P: Just as truly as we take and hold the sacraments
in our hands
and eat and drink them in our mouths,
by which our life is then sustained,
so truly we receive into our souls,
for our spiritual life,
the true body and true blood of Christ,
our only Savior.
We receive these by faith,
which is the hand and mouth of our souls.**

M: This banquet is a spiritual table at which Christ communicates Himself to us with all His benefits.

**P: By the use of this holy sacrament
we are moved to a fervent love of God
and our neighbors.**

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.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please come forward to receive the elements from the elders 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



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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

9:00AM: Discipleship Hour

**10:00AM: 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

PASTORS:

Rev. Nate Hitchcock *nate@ascension-pca.org*
Rev. Austin Clement *austin@ascension-pca.org*

PASTOR EMERITUS:

Rev. Ed Volz *volz.edw@gmail.com*

PASTORAL INTERN:

Philip Suh *philipsuh@outlook.com*

OFFICE MANAGER:

Rina Kroes *office@ascension-pca.org*

ELDERS:

Bob Miller *bob@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*
Mike Wheeler *mike@ascension-pca.org*

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR:

Monica Sledge *cmkesledge@gmail.com*

MEAL COORDINATOR:

Sheila Bloedow *s.bloedow@comcast.net*

NURSERY COORDINATOR:

Rebecca Wheeler *rwheeler2022@outlook.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.