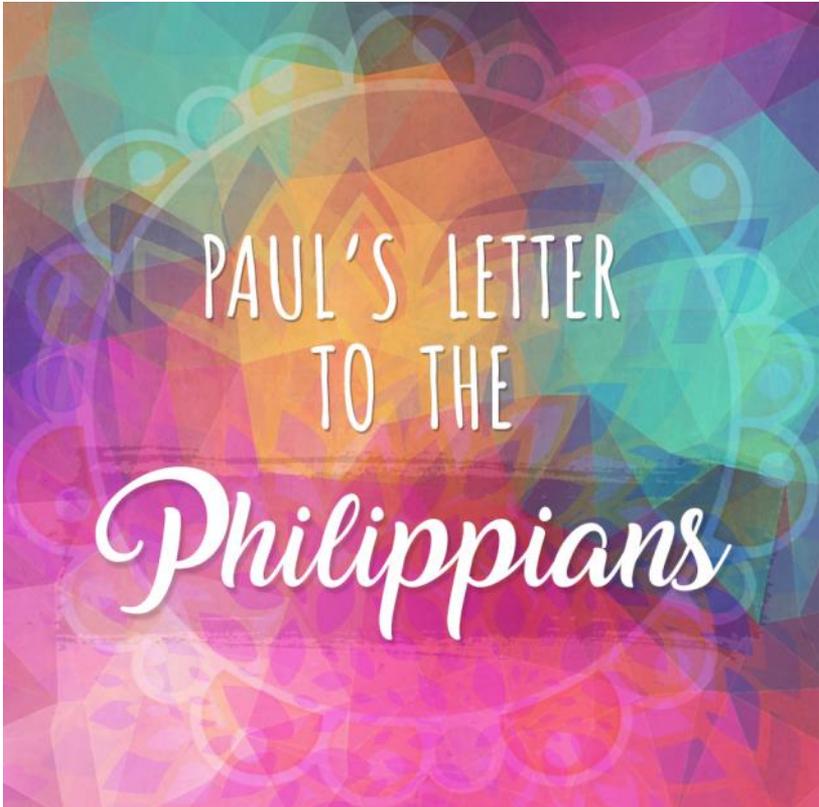




Ascension PCA

May 22, 2022



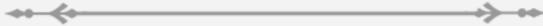
A community of worshipping, maturing,
and multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ,
to the glory of God the Father,
by the power of His Spirit,
and in the hope of God's Kingdom.



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

Thou Great I Am,
fill my mind with elevation and grandeur
at the thought of a Being with whom
one day is as a thousand years,
and a thousand years as one day.

A mighty God,
who amidst the lapse of worlds,
and the revolutions of empires,
feels no variableness,
but is glorious in immortality.

May I rejoice that,
while men die, the Lord lives;
that, while all creatures are broken reeds, empty cisterns,
fading flowers, withering grass,
He is the Rock of Ages, the Fountain of living waters.

~ from *The Valley of Vision*

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

from Revelation 4,5

M: Worthy are You, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for You created all things,
and by Your will they existed and were created.

P: **Worthy are You to take the scroll
and open its seals,
for You were slain,
and by Your blood You ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language
and people and nation,
and You have made them a kingdom
and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth...**
**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom
and might and honor and glory and blessing!**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Psalms 66

**All lands to God in joyful sounds,
Aloft your voices raise;
Sing forth the honor of His name,
And glorious make His praise.
Sing forth the honor of His name,
And glorious make His praise.**

**Yes, all the earth shall worship Thee
And unto Thee shall sing;
And to Thy name most glorious,
Their songs of praise shall bring.
And to Thy name most glorious,
Their songs of praise shall bring.**

**O all ye people, bless our God;
Aloud proclaim His praise,
Who holdeth safe our soul in life,
Our feet from sliding stays.
Who holdeth safe our soul in life,
Our feet from sliding stays.**

Words based on *Scottish Psalter* (1650), the *Book of Psalms* (1871),
and *The Psalter* (1912).

©1994 *Trinity Psalter*, Crown & Covenant Publications

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.**

**He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin,
He sets the prisoners free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.**

**He speaks and list'ning to His voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.**

**My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.**

Words by Charles Wesley (1739)

Music by Carl G. Gläser (1828); arr. by Lowell Mason (1839)

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Lord, for Your Glory

**Lord, for Your glory
We sing Your praises,
We magnify Your holy name.
All for Your glory,
Lord, we bring blessing.
We seek to honor You
All of our days!**

***We lift our hands,
We lift our praise to You,
We worship all You are
in spirit and truth.***

***We give our hearts,
We live our lives for You,
We offer all we are
for the glory of You.***

**Almighty Father,
We are Your children.
You have been faithful to Your own.
Lord, for Your glory,
We have been chosen.
We lay down all we have
Here at Your throne!**

***We lift our hands,
We lift our praise to You,
We worship all You are
in spirit and truth.***

***We give our hearts,
We live our lives for You,
We offer all we are,
We offer all we have,
We offer all our lives
for the glory of You.***

Words and music by David B. Hampton, Matt Huesmann
Grant Cunningham (1998)

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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 26:16-24

¹⁶ Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve the sentence of death, for he has spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God." ¹⁷ And certain of the elders of the land arose and spoke to all the assembled people, saying, ¹⁸ "Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and said to all the people of Judah: 'Thus says the LORD of hosts,

"Zion shall be plowed as a field;
Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,
and the mountain of the house a wooded height.'

¹⁹ Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the LORD and entreat the favor of the LORD, and did not the LORD relent of the disaster that He had pronounced against them? But we are about to bring great disaster upon ourselves."

²⁰ There was another man who prophesied in the name of the LORD, Uriah the son of Shemaiah from Kiriath-jearim. He prophesied against this city and against this land in words like those of Jeremiah. ²¹ And when King Jehoiakim, with all his warriors and all the officials, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death. But when Uriah heard of it, he was afraid and fled and escaped to Egypt. ²² Then King Jehoiakim sent to Egypt certain men, Elnathan the son of Achbor and others with him, ²³ and they took Uriah from Egypt and brought him to King Jehoiakim, who struck him down with the sword and dumped his dead body into the burial place of the common people.

²⁴ But the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah so that he was not given over to the people to be put to death.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Almighty God, we humble ourselves
in Your presence,
confessing our sin and confiding in Your mercy.
We have not sought first Your kingdom
and righteousness.
Rather, we have been anxious and troubled
about many things,
and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves,
or done to others as we would have them do to us.
Most gracious God, our heavenly Father,
who has given Your Son, Jesus Christ,
to save Your people from their sins; forgive us.
Cleanse us from all unrighteousness,
and renew a right spirit within us:
through the grace of Jesus Christ, 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

Psalm 130:3-4

**M: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O LORD, who could stand?
But with You there is forgiveness,
that You may be feared...**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)

**Out of the depths I cry to You,
In darkest places I will call,
Incline Your ear to me anew,
And hear my cry for mercy, Lord.**

**Were You to count my sinful ways,
How could I come before Your throne?
Yet, full forgiveness meets my gaze,
I stand redeemed by grace alone.**

***I will wait for You, I will wait for You,
On Your word I will rely.***

***I will wait for You, surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied.***

**So put Your hope in God alone,
Take courage in His power to save,
Completely and forever won
By Christ emerging from the grave.**

***I will wait for You, I will wait for You,
On Your word I will rely.***

***I will wait for You, surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied.***

**Now He has come to make a way,
And God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice.**

***I will wait for You, I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night.***

***I will wait for You, surely wait for You,
For Your love is my delight.***

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matthew Merker,
Stuart Townend

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Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

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 4:5b–9

⁵ The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

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, Part II”

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

PRAYER

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus, Strong and Kind

**Jesus said that if I thirst
I should come to Him.
No one else can satisfy
I should come to Him.**

**Jesus said if I am weak
I should come to Him.
No one else can be my strength
I should come to Him.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful,
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

**Jesus said that if I fear
I should come to Him.
No one else can be my shield.
I should come to Him.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful,
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

**Jesus said if I am lost
He will come to me.
And He showed me on that cross
He will come to me.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful,
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

Words and music by Rich Thompson, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren,
Colin Buchanan.
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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

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

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.**

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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Words by Isaac Watts (1707, 1709).

Gregorian Chant; arranged by Lowell Mason (1824)

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



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Scripture text from

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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

9:00AM: Discipleship Hour

**10:00AM: Worship Service
(in-person & livestream)**

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Mon & Wed & Fri (9:00AM–5:00PM)

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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.