



Ascension PCA

July 10, 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.

WELCOME TO ASCENSION!

Thank you for joining us for worship today.

**We are delighted that you are here,
especially if this is your first time with us.**

- **Connect Cards:** We would love to know that you were here this morning and encourage you to fill in a Connect Cards so that we can follow up with you, answer your questions, or pray for you. We also invite you to join us for refreshments and conversation after the service.
- **To Parents of Young Children:** We have a staffed nursery for babies to age 3 across the hallway. We encourage younger children to remain with us and participate during the service. They are not a distraction! Feel free to sit up front where your child can more easily see and hear what is happening.
- **Bibles:** If you don't have a copy of God's Word, please help yourself to one of the free Bibles as our gift to you to take home.
- **APC @ a Glance:** Please feel free to join us for any of our weekly events and fellowship opportunities. More information can be found on the blue sheets on the welcome table.

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Scripture text from

The Holy Bible, **English Standard Version.**

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Holy Bible, **New International Version®**, NIV®

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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

*Blessed be the Lord for another day of mercy,
even though I am now weary with its toils.
To the preserver of humankind I lift up my song of gratitude.
The dove found no rest out of the ark,
and therefore returned to it;
similarly, my soul has learned more fully than ever today
that there is no satisfaction to be found in earthly things —
God alone can give rest to my spirit.*

*Lord, I present You my grateful acknowledgments
for tender mercies which have been new every morning
and fresh every evening;
and now, I pray You,
put forth Your hand and take Your dove into Your bosom.*

~ Charles Spurgeon

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

M: For this is what the high and exalted One says,
He who lives forever, whose name is holy:

*"I live in a high and holy place,
but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite."*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

Praise the Lord Ye Heavens

**Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore Him;
Praise Him angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him;
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.**

**Praise the Lord for He hath spoken;
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed;
Laws which never shall be broken
For their guidance He hath made.**

***All creation join the song of praise.
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy
All of our days!***

**Praise the Lord! for He is glorious;
Never shall His promise fail;
God hath made His saints victorious;
Sin and death shall not prevail.**

***All creation join the song of praise.
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy
All of our days!***

***Glory, glory, all glory to You, Lord!
Glory, glory, all glory to You, Lord!
Glory, glory, all glory to You, Lord!***

**Praise the God of our salvation!
Hosts on high, His power proclaim;
Heaven and earth, and all creation
Laud and magnify His Name.**

***All creation join the song of praise,
Let every tongue declare His mighty ways,
And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy
All of our days!***

***And we will sing of Your goodness and mercy
All of our days!***

Words and music by Eric J. Marshall

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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.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1–41

¹ As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. ² And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ Having said these things, He spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then He anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰ So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹ But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "Whether He is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from."

³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes.

³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to Him.

³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who is speaking to you."

³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near Him heard these things, and said to Him, "Are we also blind?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: O King and Father,
your Son died and was raised up in power.
Now enable us to die to our sin in repentance
so we may rise to new life in Him.**

We confess to you:

**Lord, though You should guide us,
we inform ourselves;
though You should rule us,
we control ourselves;
though You should fulfill us,
we console ourselves.**

**We think Your truth too high,
Your will too hard,
Your power too remote,
Your love too free.**

**But they are not!
And without them,
we are of all people most miserable.**

**Now heal our confused minds with Your word,
heal our divided wills with Your law,
heal our troubled consciences with Your love,
heal our anxious hearts with Your presence,
all for the sake of Your Son,
who loved us and gave Himself for us. 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

from Colossians 2:13–14

**M: And you who were dead in your trespasses...
God made alive together with Him,
having forgiven us all our trespasses,
by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us
with its legal demands.
This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.**

SONGS OF ASSURANCE

Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

What can wash away my sin?

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

What can make me whole again?

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow

That makes me white as snow;

No other fount I know,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my cleansing this I see,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this my plea,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow

That makes me white as snow;

No other fount I know,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my righteousness,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow

That makes me white as snow;

No other fount I know,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Words and music by Robert Lowry (1876)

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above

I have a strong and perfect plea:

A great High Priest whose name is "Love,"

Who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands,

My name is written on His heart;

I know that while in heav'n He stands

No tongue can bid me thence depart;

No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,

And tells me of the guilt within,

Upward I look and see Him there,

Who made an end to all my sin.

...

**Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.**

**Behold Him there, the risen Lamb!
My perfect, spotless Righteousness.
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of Glory and of Grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God;
With Christ, my Savior and my God.**

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft (1863); Music by Vikki Cook (1997)
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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

Psalm 119:1

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!

Psalm 119:58, 68, 73, 89, 103, 105, 125, 130, 137

- 58 I entreat Your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to Your promise.
68 You are good and do good;
teach me Your statutes.
73 Your hands have made and fashioned me;
give me understanding
that I may learn Your commandments.
89 Forever, O LORD, Your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.
103 How sweet are Your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

125 I am Your servant; give me understanding,
that I may know Your testimonies!
130 The unfolding of Your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.
137 Righteous are you, O LORD,
and right are Your rules.

Psalm 119:18, 25, 37, 81, 120, 165, 174

18 Open my eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of Your law.
25 My soul clings to the dust;
give me life according to Your word!
37 Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in Your ways.
81 My soul longs for Your salvation;
I hope in your word.
120 My flesh trembles for fear of You,
and I am afraid of Your judgments.
165 Great peace have those who love Your law;
nothing can make them stumble.
174 I long for Your salvation, O LORD,
and Your law is my delight.

Psalm 119:11, 48, 54, 147, 155

11 I have stored up Your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against You.
48 I will lift up my hands toward Your commandments,
which I love,
and I will meditate on Your statutes.
54 Your statutes have been my songs
in the house of my sojourning.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I hope in Your words.
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek Your statutes.

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.**

**“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”**

Words from *Rippon's Selection of Hymns* (1787; alt.; mod.)
Traditional American melody;
J. Funk's *A Compilation of Genuine Church Music* (1832)
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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

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,
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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.

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



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

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P.O. Box 838, Lynnwood, WA 98046

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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.