



Ascension PCA

August 21, 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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Joyfully worshipping together
as the family of God,
with reverence and awe,
mindful of our heritage
as well as our present context.



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 God, I have tasted Thy goodness
and it had both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more.
I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace.
I am ashamed of my lack of desire.
O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee;
I long to be filled with longing;
I thirst to be made more thirsty still.
Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee,
so that I may know Thee indeed.
Begin in mercy a new work of love within me.
Say to my soul, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away."
Then give me grace to rise and follow Thee
up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long.*

~ A.W. Tozer

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!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 45:18,22–23

M: For thus says the LORD,
who created the heavens
(He is God!),
who formed the earth and made it
(He established it;
He did not create it empty,
He formed it to be inhabited!):
“I am the LORD, and there is no other...
Turn to Me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.
By Myself I have sworn;
from My mouth has gone out in righteousness
a word that shall not return:
‘To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear allegiance.’”

SONGS OF PRAISE

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

**Let us love and sing and wonder,
let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame;
He has washed us with His blood,
He has brought us nigh to God.**

**Let us love the Lord who bought us,
pitied us when enemies,
Called us by His grace and taught us,
gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with his blood,
He presents our souls to God.**

...

**Let us wonder; grace and justice
join and point to mercy's store;
When thro' grace in Christ our trust is,
justice smiles and asks no more:
He who washed us with His blood
has secured our way to God.**

**Let us praise, and join the chorus
of the saints enthroned on high;
Here they trusted Him before us,
now their praises fill the sky:
"You have washed us with Your blood;
You are worthy, Lamb of God!"**

Words by John Newton (1774, mod.).
Music from *Darmstadt Gesangbuch* (1698)
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.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:1-27

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. ⁷ Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You, and are You going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹ After saying these things, He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him."

¹² The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go

to him.”¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with Him.”

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.

²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

based on the Ten Commandments, with Psalm 19:12–14

M: O LORD, our God who brought Your people out of Egypt,
out of the land of slavery
and by Christ delivered us from sin,
You have been faithful to keep all the promises
of Your covenant.

**P: But we, O LORD, have been a stiff-necked people
who love unfaithfulness.
We have loved other gods before You
and become their servants.
We have not worshipped You in spirit and in truth,
and so we have mocked Your glory in heaven.
We have used Your name in vain
and profaned Your reputation on earth.
We have desecrated Your Sabbath
because we have not trusted You to give us rest.
We have not honored our fathers and mothers.
We have hated our neighbors
and murdered them in our hearts.
We have made adulterers of ourselves
in the lust of our eyes or in the deeds of our flesh.**

...

**We have stolen honor and wealth and privileges
that are not ours.**

**We have lied and falsely accused
for we love gossip more than truth.**

**We have coveted blessings
You wisely and righteously gave to others.**

O LORD, who can discern his errors?

Forgive our hidden faults.

**Keep Your servants also from willful sins;
may they not rule over us.**

**Then will we be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.**

**May the words of our mouths
and the meditation of our hearts
be pleasing in Your sight,**

O LORD, our Rock and our Redeemer.

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 Isaiah 53

**M: Surely He has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed Him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned — every one — to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all.**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Glorious Christ

**The radiance of the Father
Before the dawn of time;
You spoke and all creation came to be.
The molecules and planets
Reveal Your great design,
And every one was made so we could see,
So we could see:**

***You are the glorious Christ,
The greatest of all delights.
Your power is unequalled,
Your love beyond all heights.
No greater sacrifice
Than when You laid down Your life.
We join the song of angels
Who praise You day and night,
Glorious Christ.***

**You left the air of heaven
To breathe the dust of earth,
And dwell among the outcast and the poor.
You came to be forsaken
And died to take our curse,
So You could be our joy forevermore,
Forevermore.**

***You are the glorious Christ,
The greatest of all delights.
Your power is unequalled,
Your love beyond all heights.
No greater sacrifice
Than when You laid down Your life.
We join the song of angels
Who praise You day and night,
Glorious Christ.***

Words and music by Bob Kauflin
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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 127

- 1 Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.
- 2 It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for He gives to His beloved sleep.
- 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.
- 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.
- 5 Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

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

"Nisi Dominus Frustra"

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

PRAYER

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

**What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer;
there is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus;
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.***

**The night is dark, but I am not forsaken;
for by my side the Saviour He will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
for in my need His power is displayed.
*To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me;
Through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh, the night has been won,
And I shall overcome.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.***

**No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven;
the future sure, the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
and He was raised to overthrow the grave.
*To this I hold, my sin has been defeated;
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released,
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.***

**With every breath I long to follow Jesus;
for He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me,
until I stand with joy before the throne.
*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus;
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete,
Still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
When the race is complete,
Still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.***

Words and music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson
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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 TOGETHER

from "The Lord's Supper", The Valley of Vision

P: God of all good,

**You have prepared for us a feast;
and though we are unworthy to sit down as guests,
we wholly rest on the merits of Jesus,
and hide beneath His righteousness.**

**While we gaze upon the emblems of our Savior's death,
may we ponder why He died, and hear Him say,**

***"I gave My life to purchase yours,
presented Myself an offering to expiate your sin,
shed My blood to blot out your guilt,
opened My side to make you clean,
endured your curses to set you free,
bore your condemnation to satisfy divine justice."***

**In the supper we remember His eternal love,
boundless grace, infinite compassion,
agony, cross, redemption,
and receive assurance of pardon, adoption, life, glory.**

**As the outward elements nourish our bodies,
may Your indwelling Spirit invigorate our souls,
until that day when we hunger and thirst no more,
and sit with Jesus at His heavenly feast. 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

May the Grace of Christ our Savior

**May the grace of Christ our Savior,
and the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.**

**Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford.**

Words by John Newton (1770). Music by Asahel Nettleton (1825).
PUBLIC DOMAIN



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)

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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.