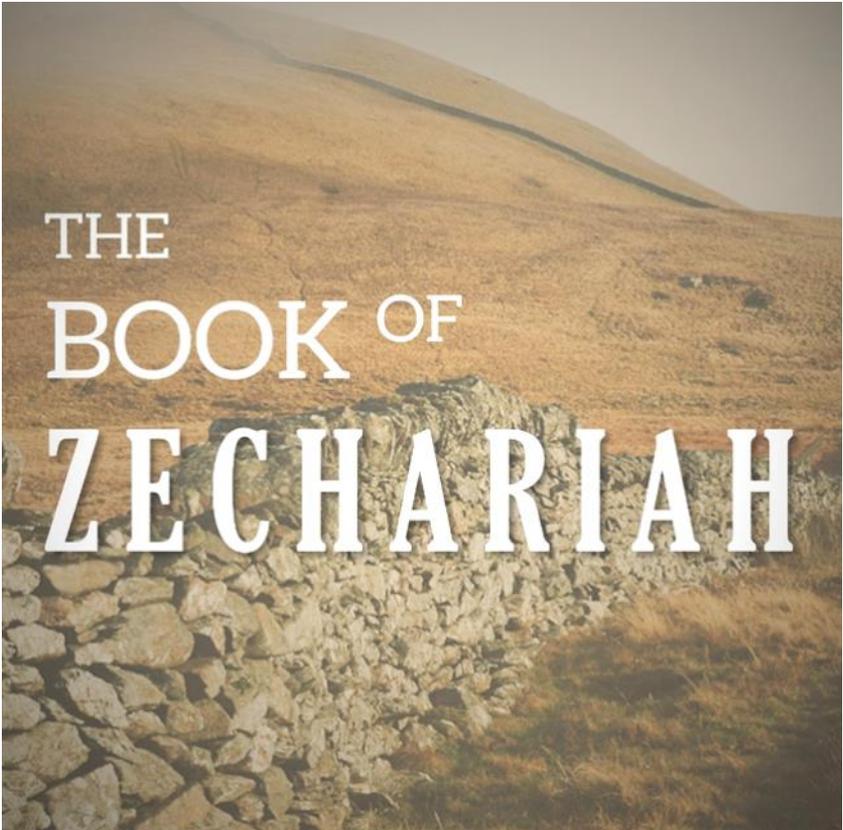




**Ascension** PCA

**October 2, 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 with One Another:**

We would love to know that you were here this morning and encourage you to fill in a *Connect Card* so that we can follow up with you, answer your questions, or pray for you. Our practice of wearing *Name Tags* is to make you feel more comfortable among us, help you to identify staff and leadership, and make it easier for you to connect with us. See our back page for contact information. We heartily invite you to join us for *refreshments* and conversation after the service.

## **To Parents of Young Children:**

If you would like to utilize it, we have a staffed *Nursery* for children through age 3 across the hall. We encourage younger children to remain with us during the service. They are not a distraction! *Clipboards for kids* are available to encourage our children to participate in our worship together. Stop by the special Kids Table to pick up clipboards and crayons for your child. Feel free to sit up front where your child can more easily see and hear what is happening.

## **Free Biblical Resources:**

If you don't have a copy of God's Word, please help yourself to one of the free Bibles as our gift for you to take home. You are also welcome to browse the literature and resources available to you on the Welcome Table, carts, and stands.

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

*What is now will not go on forever.  
This world is marching toward an end.  
We can embrace the hope of justice.  
Final judgment is coming.  
Grace requires evil to die forever.  
Those far from You will perish.  
Those unfaithful to You will come to an end.  
I have been unfaithful to You.  
I have chosen to be far from You.  
I have broken each of Your laws.  
But I am not afraid of what You will put to an end.  
Grace has drawn me near to You.  
Grace has paid for my unfaithfulness.  
Grace has made me clean in Your eyes.  
Grace put my stripes on Jesus,  
so I would not face them when You put what-is-now to an end.*

~ Paul Tripp

# 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 5*

M: Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels,  
numbering thousands upon thousands,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand.  
They encircled the throne and the living creatures  
and the elders; in a loud voice they sang:

**P: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and praise!"**

M: Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth and on the sea,  
and all that is in them, singing:

**P: "To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be praise and honor and glory and power,  
for ever and ever."**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

### SONGS OF PRAISE

*Psalms 98*

**O sing a new song to the LORD  
For wonders He has done,  
His right hand and His holy arm  
The victory have won.**

**With harp make music to the LORD;  
With harp a psalm O sing!  
With horn and trumpet raise a shout  
Before the LORD, the King.**

**Let seas in all their vastness roar,  
The world its living horde.  
Let rivers clap, let mountains sing  
Their joy before the LORD!**

**Because He comes, He surely comes,  
The judge of earth to be!  
With justice He will judge the world,  
All men with equity.**

Words based on *Scottish Psalter* (1650).

Music (*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*) by Carl G. Gläser (1828);

arr. by Lowell Mason (1839)

Words: © 2012 Crown and Covenant Publications.

Music: 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  
he Redeemer has come,  
For He dwells in the presence  
of His people.***

Words and 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.

## **NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING**

*John 13:1-20*

<sup>1</sup> Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist. <sup>5</sup> Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter,

who said to Him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?"<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."<sup>8</sup> Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with Me."<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you."

<sup>11</sup> For He knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup> When He had washed their feet and put on His outer garments and resumed His place, He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?"<sup>13</sup> You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am.<sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.<sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.<sup>16</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.<sup>17</sup> If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.<sup>18</sup> I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate My bread has lifted his heel against Me.'

<sup>19</sup> I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am He.<sup>20</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives the One who sent Me."

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*based on Psalm 15*

M: LORD, who may dwell in Your sanctuary?  
Who may live on Your holy hill?

**P: He whose walk is blameless  
and who does what is righteous,  
who speaks the truth from his heart  
and has no slander on his tongue,  
who does his neighbor no wrong  
and casts no slur on his fellowman,  
who despises a vile man  
but honors those who fear the LORD,  
who keeps his oath even when it hurts,  
who lends his money without usury  
and does not accept a bribe against the innocent.**

M: He who does these things will never be shaken.

**P: O LORD, have mercy on us!**

**We have lied and slandered,  
we have harmed our neighbors  
and cast slurs on other men,  
we have honored the vile,  
we have sought comfort before integrity,  
we have withheld riches from the needy  
and withheld justice from the innocent.**

**We are not blameless  
and we cannot dwell with You  
unless You have mercy on us.  
Have mercy upon us,  
for in Jesus alone we plead. 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

*Romans 8:1*

M: There is therefore now no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus.

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

*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 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.**

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.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## READING OF THE WORD

*Zechariah 3:1–10*

<sup>1</sup> Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from

the fire?"<sup>3</sup> Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments.<sup>4</sup> And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments."<sup>5</sup> And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

<sup>6</sup> And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua,  
<sup>7</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in My ways and keep My charge, then you shall rule My house and have charge of My courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here."<sup>8</sup> Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring My servant the Branch.<sup>9</sup> For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day.<sup>10</sup> In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."

## 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

*"More Than Enough"*

*Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

## PRAYER





## GIVING TO THE LORD

O Mighty One, You have done  
and are doing great things for us,  
and holy is Your Name.  
Bless all we offer You —  
ourselves, our time, and our possessions —  
that through us Your grace and favor  
may be known to all the world,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

## SONG OF THANKSGIVING

### *Rock of Ages*

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
from Thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure;  
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfil Thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress;  
helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when my eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
see Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in Thee.**

Words by Augustus Montague Toplady. Music by James Ward.  
Words: PUBLIC DOMAIN. Music: ©1985 James Ward Music

## 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 Hebrews 9 & 10*

**M:** For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that He has died as a ransom to set them free.

**P:** **Therefore, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.**

### 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



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Scripture text from

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

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## **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

**9:00AM: Discipleship Hour**

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

**Meeting Address:**

8224 220<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@ascension-pca.org)

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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.