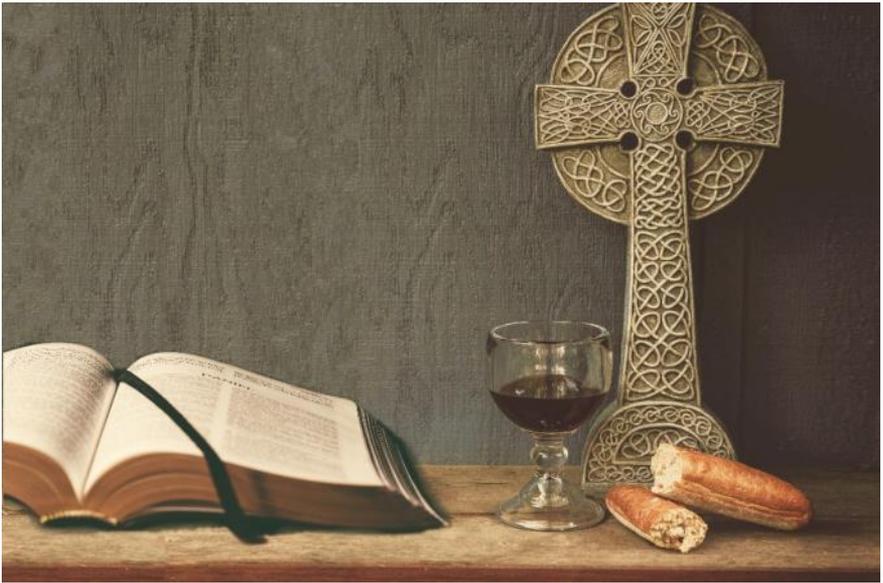




Ascension PCA

February 19, 2023



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.

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

*Lord Jesus, O, the wonder of this Good News...
We cannot hear it too much, believe it too deeply,
or rejoice in it too fully.
By your death on the cross, you have taken away our sins,
once and for all. Nothing is left undone;
nothing more needs to happen;
nothing else could've met our need.
It's not: you did your part, now we must do our part.
It's: you did your part; now let us trust in your part.
Even as we rest in your finished work,
so we rejoice in your present reign, Lord Jesus.
Atoned-for-sin will be abolished sin;
already-defeated evil will be eradicated evil;
vanquished enemies will be eliminated enemies.
May the joy of this good news buckle our knees in humble
adoration, and empower our hands for neighbor love.*

~ Scotty Smith

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

1 Chronicles 29:10-11

**P: Praise be to You, O LORD, God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power,
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth is Yours...**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

Behold Our God

**Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.**

Behold our God, seated on His throne.

Come, let us adore Him.

Behold our King! Nothing can compare.

Come, let us adore Him!

**Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?**

Behold our God, seated on His throne.

Come, let us adore Him.

Behold our King! Nothing can compare.

Come, let us adore Him!

**Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave,
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!**

**Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King! Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore ...
Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King! Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!**

Words and music by
Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge (2011)
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Be Thou My Vision

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that Thou art —
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.
Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art.
High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Ancient Irish Poem, translated by Mary E. Byrne (1905),
versified by Eleanor H. Hull (1912)
Traditional Irish melody, arranged by David Evans (1927)
PUBLIC DOMAIN

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

Psalm 67

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us, *Selah*
- 2 that Your way may be known on earth,
Your saving power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for You judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*
- 5 Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

- P: Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.**
- Forgive us...
for the thoughts that we've hidden from others,
but are vivid before You.**
- Forgive us...
for the words we shouldn't have spoken
and those we left unsaid.**
- Forgive us...
for failing to reflect Your glory in our lives.**
- And grant us the grace to grow more and more
in Your likeness and image;
through 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.*

THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

1 Peter 2:10

- M: Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

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 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

II Corinthians 5:14–21

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is,

GIVING TO THE LORD

Proverbs 11:28

Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

SONG OF RESPONSE

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 and music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend
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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

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.

SONG OF MEDITATION

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 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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A NOTE ABOUT GIVING

Please make sure that checks are made out to
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and that any automatic payments are being sent
to the **P.O. Box mailing address** listed.

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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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