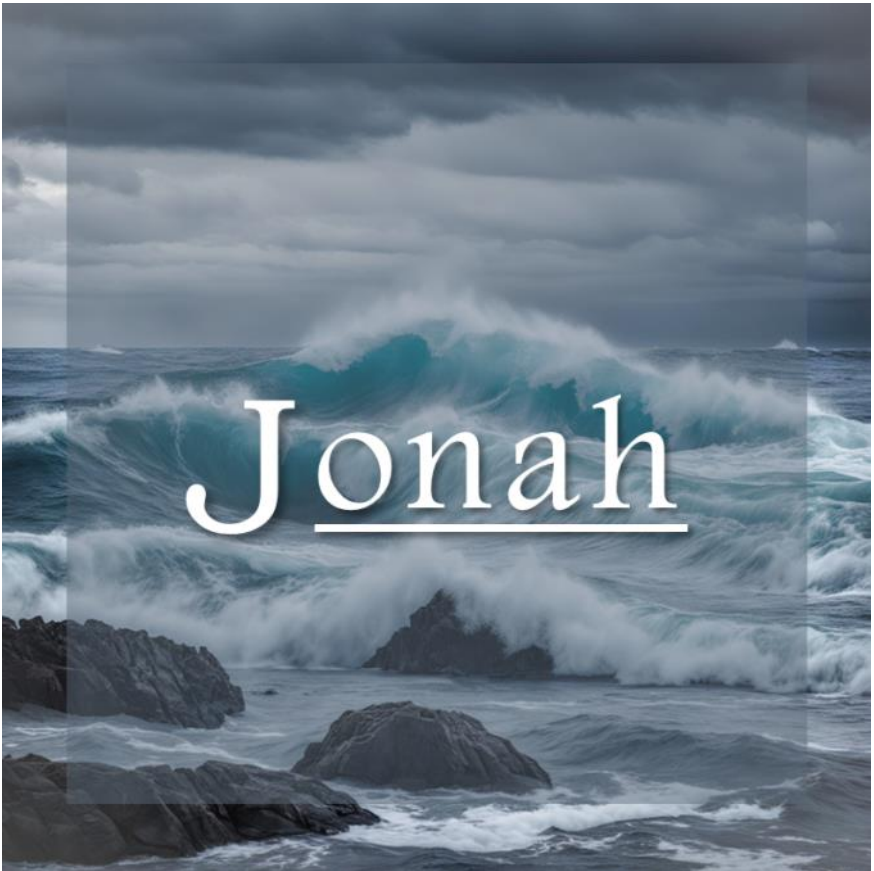




Ascension PCA

November 3, 2024



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

*O God, I have tasted Thy goodness  
and it has 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.*

# 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

*1 Chronicles 29:10-13*

**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.  
Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom;  
You are exalted as head over all.  
Wealth and honor come from You;  
You are the ruler of all things.  
In Your hands are strength and power  
to exalt and give strength to all.  
Now, our God, we give You thanks,  
and praise Your glorious Name. Amen.**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Our Great God*

**Eternal God, unchanging,  
mysterious and unknown;  
Your boundless love, unfailing,  
in grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in endless flight  
around Your glorious throne;  
they raise their voices day and night  
in praise to You alone.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

**Lord, we are weak and frail,  
helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with Your angels,  
hold us in Your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
before our Sovereign God.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

**Let every creature in the sea  
and every flying bird,  
let every mountain, every field,  
and valley of the earth;  
Let all the moons and all the stars  
in all the universe  
sing praises to the living God  
who rules them by His Word.**

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

Words and music by Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell.  
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PUBLIC DOMAIN

### *Light of the World*

**Light of the World, Treasure of Heaven,  
brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky.  
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness,  
shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight.**

**Light of the World, from the beginning  
the tragedies of time were no match for Your love.  
From great heights of glory, You saw my story.  
God, You entered in and became one of us.**

***Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah,  
sing hallelujah for the things He has done!  
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him.  
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World.***

**Light of the world, crown in a manger,  
born for the cross, to suffer, to save.  
High King of Heaven, death is the poorer.  
We are the richer by the price that He paid.**

***Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah,  
sing hallelujah for the things He has done!  
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him.  
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World.***

**Light of the World, soon will be coming.  
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own.  
Through clouds He will lead us straight into glory,  
and there He shall reign forevermore.**

***Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah,  
sing hallelujah for the things He has done!  
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him.  
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World.***

Words & music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash,  
Martin Cash, Scott Cash  
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Cash Publishing Designee; We The Kingdom Music

## 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

*1 Corinthians 5:1-13*

*Elder Brian Walsh*

<sup>1</sup> It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. <sup>2</sup> And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

<sup>3</sup> For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. <sup>4</sup> When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, <sup>5</sup> you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? <sup>7</sup> Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

<sup>9</sup> I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people — <sup>10</sup> not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. <sup>11</sup> But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he

is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler — not even to eat with such a one. <sup>12</sup> For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? <sup>13</sup> God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Psalm 130:1–6*

**P: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!**

**O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let Your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

**If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O LORD, who could stand?**

**But with You there is forgiveness,  
that You may be feared.**

**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in His word I hope;  
my soul waits for the LORD  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning...**

## 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 FORGIVENESS

*Psalm 130:7–8*

... O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with Him is plentiful redemption.

And He will redeem Israel  
from all his iniquities.

## 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.***

***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

## **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

### *Jonah 3:1-10*

<sup>1</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup> So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. <sup>4</sup> Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup> And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

<sup>6</sup> The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup> And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, <sup>8</sup> but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. <sup>9</sup> Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.

## 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

*"The Power of the Word"*

*Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

SERMON NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## SONG OF THANKSGIVING

*I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*

**I love Thy kingdom, Lord,  
the house of Thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved  
with His own precious blood.**

**I love Thy church, O God:  
her walls before Thee stand.  
dear as the apple of Thine eye  
and graven on Thy hand.**

**For her my tears shall fall,  
for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares and toils be giv'n,  
till toils and cares shall end.**

**Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
her hymns of love and praise.**

**Jesus, Thou Friend divine,  
our Savior and our King,  
Thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe  
shall great deliv'rance bring.**

**Sure as Thy truth shall last,  
to Zion shall be giv'n  
the brightest glories earth can yield,  
and brighter bliss of heaven.**

Words by Timothy Dwight (1800). Music by Aaron Williams (1763).  
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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

## CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

*from Hebrews 4*

**P: Since we have a great High Priest  
who has gone through the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God,  
let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.**

**For we do not have a high priest  
who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,  
but we have one who has been tempted in every way,  
just as we are — yet without sin.**

**Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence,  
so that we may receive mercy  
and find grace to help us  
in our time of need.**

## 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.  
Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available from the trays.  
Please HOLD elements until we can all partake TOGETHER.*

## SONG OF MEDITATION

*All Is Well*

**The sun beams on behind the clouds,  
and in the dark still grace abounds.  
All is well because of God's great love.  
The road of disappointment runs  
where unseen mercies wait for us,  
and all is well because of God's great love.**

*How brightly shines the love of the Father  
in our Savior Jesus Christ.  
With faithful hands He fulfills ev'ry promise.  
He will never leave our side.*

**He feels our weakness, knows our need,  
and for our good He intercedes.  
All is well because of God's great love.**

Through ev'ry failure, ev'ry fear,  
the Lord of comfort draws us near,  
and all is well because of God's great love.

*How brightly shines the love of the Father  
in our Savior Jesus Christ.  
With faithful hands He fulfills ev'ry promise.  
He will never leave our side.*

His coming soon will fill the sky,  
and all that's wrong will be made right.  
With newborn eyes we will behold  
the glory of the risen Lord.  
All will be well because of God's great love.  
Yes, all is well because of God's great love.

Words and music by Steve Cook, Vikki Cook (2012).  
© 2012 Sovereign Grace Worship

## PRAYER

## 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 on the back page.

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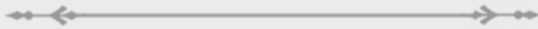
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ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

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**APC Office:** Mon & Wed & Fri (9:00AM–5:00PM)  
(425) 286-8617 *office@ascension-pca.org*