



# Ascension PCA

June 1, 2025



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**

Father, having given Jesus to be the Lamb of God on our behalf,  
You raised and installed Him  
as the Lord of lords and King of kings.

Jesus has the hearts of every other king in His hands.  
He rules over and in all things, for our good and Your glory.  
Nothing and no one can alter or resist His lordship,  
for He is making all things new.

O the security of the occupied throne of heaven  
and the steadfast love of our God.

*~ 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!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION & ADORATION

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Jeremiah 10:6–7 & 1 Timothy 1:17*

- M: There is none like You, O LORD;  
    You are great, and Your name is great in might.  
Who would not fear You, O King of the nations?  
    For this is Your due;  
for among all the wise ones of the nations  
    and in all their kingdoms  
    there is none like You.
- P: **Now to the King, immortal, invisible, the only God,  
be honor and glory forever and ever!**

### SONGS OF PRAISE

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might.  
Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

Words by Walter Chambers Smith (1867).  
Traditional Welsh hymn melody.  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## *Across the Lands*

**You're the Word of God the Father  
from before the world began;  
Every star and every planet  
has been fashioned by Your hand.**

**All creation holds together  
by the power of Your voice.  
Let the skies declare Your glory;  
let the land and seas rejoice!**

***You're the Author of creation,  
You're the Lord of every man,  
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.***

**Yet You left the gaze of angels,  
came to seek and save the lost,  
and exchanged the joy of heaven  
for the anguish of a cross.**

**With a prayer You fed the hungry,  
with a word You calmed the sea.  
Yet how silently You suffered,  
that the guilty may go free.**

***You're the Author of creation,  
You're the Lord of every man,  
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.***

**With a shout You rose victorious,  
wresting vict'ry from the grave,  
and ascended into heaven,  
leading captives in Your way.**

**Now You stand before the Father,  
interceding for Your own.  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
You are leading sinners home.**

***You're the Author of creation,  
You're the Lord of every man,  
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.***

***You're the Author of creation,  
You're the Lord of every man,  
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.***

# 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 15:50-58*

*Elder Philip Suh*

<sup>50</sup> I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

<sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

<sup>55</sup> "O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

<sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Great and merciful Father,  
all Your lovingkindness is in Your Son,  
we cling to Him with the arms of faith,  
we urge His saving name as the One who died for us,  
we plead His blood to pay for our debts of wrong.**

**Accept His sinlessness for our transgression,  
His purity for our uncleanness,  
His truth for our deceit,  
His meekness for our pride,  
His constancy for our backslidings,  
His love for our enmity,**

**His obedience for our lawlessness,  
His glory for our shame,  
His righteousness for our dead works,  
His death for our lives.  
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

Hear the gracious words of our Lord Jesus Christ  
to all who truly repent and turn to Him:

*"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden,  
and I will give you rest"*

May that grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

*Come, Ye Sinners*

**Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,  
weak and wounded, sick and sore.  
Jesus, ready, stands to save you,  
full of pity joined with pow'r.  
He is able, He is able;  
He is willing, doubt no more.**

**Come, ye needy, come and welcome;  
God's free bounty glorify:  
True belief and true repentance,  
ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.  
Without money, without money  
come to Jesus Christ and buy.**

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
bruised and broken by the fall.  
If you tarry till you're better,  
you will never come at all.  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
sinners Jesus came to call.  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
sinners Jesus came to call.**

Words by Joseph Hart (1759, alt.); adapted by Matthew Smith.  
Music by Matthew Smith (2000).  
Words: PUBLIC DOMAIN. Music: ©2000 detuned radio music

# 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

*Job 22:1-12,21-30*

<sup>1</sup> Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said:

<sup>2</sup> "Can a man be profitable to God?

Surely He who is wise is profitable to Himself.

<sup>3</sup> Is it any pleasure to the Almighty if you are in the right,  
or is it gain to Him if you make your ways blameless?

<sup>4</sup> Is it for your fear of Him that He reproves you  
and enters into judgment with you?

<sup>5</sup> Is not your evil abundant?

There is no end to your iniquities.

<sup>6</sup> For you have exacted pledges of your brothers for nothing  
and stripped the naked of their clothing.

<sup>7</sup> You have given no water to the weary to drink,  
and you have withheld bread from the hungry.

<sup>8</sup> The man with power possessed the land,  
and the favored man lived in it.

<sup>9</sup> You have sent widows away empty,  
and the arms of the fatherless were crushed.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore snares are all around you,  
and sudden terror overwhelms you,

<sup>11</sup> or darkness, so that you cannot see,  
and a flood of water covers you.

<sup>12</sup> Is not God high in the heavens?

See the highest stars, how lofty they are!

<sup>21</sup> Agree with God, and be at peace;  
thereby good will come to you.

<sup>22</sup> Receive instruction from His mouth,  
and lay up His words in your heart.

<sup>23</sup> If you return to the Almighty you will be built up;  
if you remove injustice far from your tents,

<sup>24</sup> if you lay gold in the dust,  
and gold of Ophir among the stones of the torrent-bed,

<sup>25</sup> then the Almighty will be your gold  
and your precious silver.



26 For then you will delight yourself in the Almighty  
and lift up your face to God.  
27 You will make your prayer to Him, and He will hear you,  
and you will pay your vows.  
28 You will decide on a matter, and it will be established for you,  
and light will shine on your ways.  
29 For when they are humbled you say, 'It is because of pride';  
but He saves the lowly.  
30 He delivers even the one who is not innocent,  
who will be delivered through the cleanness of your hands."

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 Unseen Realm"*

*Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

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

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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 RESPONSE

*Psalm 42*

**Why my soul are you downcast?  
Why are you troubled within?  
For I will hope in my Saviour, my God  
and will praise Him, yet praise Him again.**

**Why my soul are you downcast?  
Why are you troubled within?  
For I will hope in my Saviour, my God  
and will praise Him, yet praise Him again.**

***Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.  
I will praise Him yet, praise Him again.***

***Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.  
I will praise Him yet, praise Him again.***

**Morning by morning, new mercies are streaming.  
I trust in Your goodness where I cannot see.  
You have been faithful whenever I wandered.  
Lord, give me the hope that I need.**

**Morning by morning, new mercies are streaming.  
I trust in Your goodness where I cannot see.  
You have been faithful whenever I wandered.  
Lord, give me the hope that I need.**

***Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.  
I will praise Him yet, praise Him again.***

**Why my soul are you downcast?  
Why are you troubled within?  
For I will hope in my Saviour, my God  
and will praise Him, yet praise Him again.**

Words and music by Jonny Robinson & Tiarne Tranter.  
© CityAlight Music

# 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

### PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

*adapted from "The Valley of Vision"*

**P: Everlasting Father, our hope is in You.**

**If ever we are saved it will be by goodness,  
undeserved and astonishing.**

**Not by mercy alone, but by abundant mercy.**

**Not by grace, but by exceeding riches of grace.**

**We bless You for the everlasting covenant,  
for the appointment of a Mediator.**

**We rejoice that He didn't fail,  
but accomplished the work You gave him to do;  
and said on the cross, "It is finished."**

**We exult in the thought that  
Your justice is satisfied,  
Your truth established,  
Your law magnified,  
and a foundation is laid for our hope.**

**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 the indwelling Spirit invigorate our souls,  
until the 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.*

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

## SONG OF MEDITATION

*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.**

**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.**

## 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  
***Ascension Presbyterian Church***  
and that any automatic payments are being sent  
to the **P.O. Box mailing address** listed on the back page.

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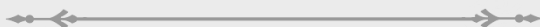
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## **ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

**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

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(425) 286-8617 *office@ascension-pca.org*