



Ascension PCA

November 2, 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

To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God
in everything He has given us —
and He has given us everything.

Every breath we draw is a gift of His love,
every moment of existence is a grace,
for it brings with it immense graces from Him.

Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted,
is never unresponsive,
is constantly awakening to new wonder
and to praise of the goodness of God.

For the grateful person knows that God is good,
not by hearsay but by experience.

And that is what makes all the difference

~ Thomas Merton

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

M: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is good and right to do so.

**ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD God Almighty,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Glory to You, O LORD, most high.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Only a Holy God

**Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
*Only a Holy God.***

**What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
*Only a Holy God.***

***Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

**What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
*Only a Holy God.***

***Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

**Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?**

***Only a Holy God,
Only my Holy God!***

***Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

***Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.***

Words and music by Dustin R. Smith, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren,
Rich Thompson.

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Integrity's Praise! Music, and CityAlight Music

Come, Thou Almighty King

**Come, thou Almighty King,
help us Thy name to sing,
help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.**

**Come, Thou Incarnate Word,
gird on Thy mighty sword,
our prayer attend.
Come, and Thy people bless,
and give Thy Word success;
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.**

**Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.**

**To the great One in Three
eternal praises be,
hence evermore.
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.**

Words Anonymous (ca. 1757). Music by Felice de Giardini (1769).
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 100

Elder Philip Suh

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
- ² Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing!
- ³ Know that the LORD, He is God!
It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
- ⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving,
and His courts with praise!
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
- ⁵ For the LORD is good;
His steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness to all generations.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Adapted from John Knox's Liturgy of 1560

P: Almighty God,

**We are unworthy to come into Your presence,
because of our many sins.**

We do not deserve any grace or mercy from You.

**We have sinned against you, O Lord,
and we have offended You.**

**And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins
and offenses,**

**so also do we acknowledge You to be a merciful God,
a loving and favorable Father,
to all who turn to You.**

And so we humbly ask You,

for the sake of Christ Your Son,

to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses.

**Forgive the sins of our youth,
and the sins of our old age.**

**By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts,
so that, not only the actions of our life,**

**but also the words of our mouths,
and the smallest thoughts of our minds,
may be guided and governed by You.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, now and forever. 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 GOOD NEWS

based on 1 Timothy 1:15 & 1 Peter 2:24

Hear the good news:

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ: you are forgiven.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.**

**For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great;
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.**

**You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He,
Lord Sabaoth, His name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.**

**The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.**

**That Word above all earthly pow'rs,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.**

**Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.**

Words and music by Martin Luther (1529);
translated by Frederick H. Hedge (1853)
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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

READING OF THE WORD

1 Thessalonians 5:17-28

¹⁷ Pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.

²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

²⁵ Brothers, pray for us.

²⁶ Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

²⁷ I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

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

"A Gospel Community, Part II"

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus, Thank You

**The myst'ry of the cross I cannot comprehend,
The agonies of Calvary.
You the perfect, Holy One, crushed Your Son
Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me.**

***Your blood has washed away my sin;
Jesus, thank You.
The Father's wrath completely satisfied;
Jesus, thank You.
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table;
Jesus, thank You.***

**By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near;
Your enemy You've made Your friend.
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace,
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end.**

***Your blood has washed away my sin;
Jesus, thank You.
The Father's wrath completely satisfied;
Jesus, thank You.
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table;
Jesus, thank You.***

***Your blood has washed away my sin;
Jesus, thank You.
The Father's wrath completely satisfied;
Jesus, thank You.
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table;
Jesus, thank You.***

Words and music by Pat Sczebel

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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

The Nicene Creed

**P: We believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God from God,
Light from Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made.**

**Who, for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven;
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead.
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, and Giver of life.
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke through the prophets.**

**And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

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

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

**Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
see Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;
yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
By His Son, God now has spoken:
'tis the true and faithful Word.**

**Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
foes insulting His distress.
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
none would interpose to save.
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
was the stroke that Justice gave.**

**Ye who think of sin but lightly,
nor suppose the evil great,
Here may view its nature rightly,
here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the Sacrifice appointed,
see Who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.**

**Here we have a firm foundation,
here the refuge of the lost.
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,
His the Name of which we boast.**

**Lamb of God for sinners wounded,
sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded,
who on Him their hope have built.**

Words by Thomas Kelly (1804; alt. 1961).
Music from *Geistliche Volkslieder*, Paderborn (1850).
PUBLIC DOMAIN

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
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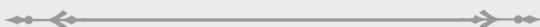
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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

9:00AM: Discipleship Hour

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

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