



January 18, 2026



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!

Feel free to sit up front where your child can more easily see and hear what is happening.

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.

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

*Trust is not a passive state of mind.
It is a vigorous act of the soul
by which we choose to lay hold on the promises of God
and cling to them despite the adversity
that at times seeks to overwhelm us.*

~Jerry Bridges

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 (*in unison*)

P: Father,

**Whose glory is ever above us,
Whose mercy is ever with us,
and Whose everlasting arms are ever underneath us,
holy, holy, holy is Your name!**

Hear us, Father

**for we gather together in the name of Jesus,
Your only begotten, well-beloved Son,
that in Him we might recognize Your presence,
that in Him we might see Your glory.**

Help us, Spirit...

**for we are a distracted and forgetful people.
Revive us and receive us again in the name of Jesus.**

To You, O Father,

**together with the Son and with the Holy Spirit,
One God from all eternity and to all eternity,
be glory, wisdom, power, and dominion
evermore. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 62:1-2, 8

M: For God alone our souls wait in silence;
from Him comes our salvation.

He alone is our rock and our salvation,
our fortress; we shall not be greatly shaken.

Trust in Him at all times, O people;
pour out your hearts before Him;
God is a refuge for us.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is
thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear,
now to His temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord,
who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under His wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen
how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord,
who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
decked thee with health, and with loving hand
guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief
hath not He brought thee relief,
spreading His winds to o'er shade thee!**

**Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again,
gladly for aye we adore Him!**

Words by Joachim Neander (1680); tr. by Catherine Winkworth (1863).
Music from *Straslund Gesangbuch* (1665).
PUBLIC DOMAIN

Oh What High and Holy Privilege

**Oh what high and holy priv'lege,
once again to gather here
in the name of our Lord Jesus
as we see His Day draw near.
May we join in joyful rev'rence
with thanksgiving, faith, and love
as He welcomes in His people
to the throne of grace above.**

**Oh what high and holy priv'lege
voices raised in prayer and praise,
boldly bringing great petitions,
gladly singing hymns of faith.
May His grace at work among us
cleanse and heal us from our sin
that our prayers may not be hindered
and our praises honor Him.**

**Oh what high and holy priv'lege
hearing from the Word of God,
heaven speaks in perfect wisdom,
earth responds and stands in awe.**

**Do our hearts not burn within us
as we see God's promises
find their final yes in Jesus,
leading us to righteousness!**

**Oh what high and holy priv'lege
this communion that we share
with the Father, Son, and Spirit
and His people everywhere.**

**As we go with God's great blessing
in the keeping of His grace,
go in peace to love and service
till we join again in praise.**

**As we go with God's great blessing
in the keeping of His grace,
go in peace to love and service
till we join again in praise,
till we join again in praise.**

Words and music by Bryan Christopher Fowler, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa.

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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
© 2018 Getty Music Publishing, Jordan Kauflin Music, Matthew Merker Music,
Townend Songs

GOD CLEANSES 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

Hebrews 12:1-11

Elder Brett Chase

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³ Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

⁵ And have you forgotten
the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by Him.

⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one He loves,
and chastises every son whom He receives."

⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating
you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not
discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have
participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us
and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject
to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for
a short time as it seemed best to them, but He disciplines us
for our good, that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ For the
moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant,
but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those
who have been trained by it.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Almighty God and Merciful Father,
We confess that we are stubborn, sinful, and weak.
We wander from You
and in our pride invent our own ways.
Make us humble, teachable, patient;
quick to see our sin
and confess it to You and one another.**

**We confess to You now with godly sorrow.
Forgive us, we pray.**

**Jesus, thank You for willingly bearing our griefs
and carrying our sorrows.**

**Thank You for bringing us peace
through the punishment You bore.**

**Holy Spirit, lead us to Christ,
for we have an Advocate to calm our fears,
and a perfect Lamb who has died in our place.
In Jesus we plead. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSON 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

Ephesians 1:7-8 & Isaiah 12:1-2a

L: In Christ we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of sins,
in accordance with the riches of God's grace
that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

P: We will praise You, LORD.

Although You were angry with us,
Your anger has turned away
and You have comforted us.
Surely God is our salvation;
we will trust and not be afraid.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

There is One Gospel

**There is one Gospel on which I stand
for all eternity.**
It is my story, my Father's plan.
The Son has rescued me.
Oh what a Gospel, oh what a peace.
My highest joy and my deepest need.
Now and forever, He is my light.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**There is one Gospel to which I cling,
all else I count as loss.**
For there, where justice and mercy meet,
He saved me on the cross.
No more I boast in what I can bring,
no more I carry the weight of sin.
For He has brought me from death to life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**There is one Gospel where hope is found,
the empty tomb still speaks.**
For death could not keep my Saviour down,
He lives and I am free.
Now on my Saviour I fix my eyes,
my life is His and His hope is mine.
For He has promised I too will rise.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**And in this Gospel, the church is one,
we do not walk alone.**
We have His Spirit as we press on
to lead us safely home.

**And when in glory still I will sing
of this old story that rescued me.
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**And when in glory still I will sing
of this old story that rescued me.
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Words and music by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson (2022).
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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

Proverbs 3:1-12

- ¹ My son, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments,
- ² for length of days and years of life
and peace they will add to you.
- ³ Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
- ⁴ So you will find favor and good success
in the sight of God and man.
- ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
- ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make straight your paths.
- ⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
- ⁸ It will be healing to your flesh
and refreshment to your bones.
- ⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
- ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline
or be weary of His reproof,
12 for the LORD reproves him whom He loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights.

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 Path of Blessing”

Elder Philip Suh

SERMON NOTES: _____

PRAYER

GIVING TO THE LORD

James 1:17

Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of lights
with Whom there is no variation or shadow due to change

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

**'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
and to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise,
and to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"**

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

**O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'neath the healing cleansing flood.**

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

**Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy, and peace.**

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

**I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me,
will be with me to the end.**

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

Words by Louisa M.R. Stead (1882).

Music by William J. Kirkpatrick (1882).

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.

EUCARISTIC PRAYER

CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

The Apostles' Creed

M: Do you believe in God the Father?

P: **I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

M: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

P: **I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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 thence He shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

M: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

P: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
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.

Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available from the trays.

Please HOLD elements until we can all partake TOGETHER.

SONG OF MEDITATION

How Sweet and Awesome is the Place

**How sweet and awesome is the place
with Christ within the doors,
while everlasting love displays
the choicest of her stores.**

**While all our hearts and all our songs
join to admire the feast,
each of us cries, with thankful tongue,
"Lord, why was I a guest?"**

**"Why was I made to hear Thy voice,
and enter while there's room,
when thousands make a wretched choice,
and rather starve than come?"**

**'Twas the same love that spread the feast
that sweetly drew us in;
else we had still refused to taste,
and perished in our sin.**

**Pity the nations, O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
send Thy victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.**

**We long to see Thy churches full,
that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul,
sing Thy redeeming grace.**

Words by Isaac Watts (1707; Alt. 1961, 1990, mod.)

Old Irish hymn melody (alt. 1990)

PUBLIC DOMAIN

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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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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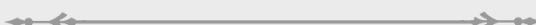
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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

9:00AM: **Discipleship Hour**

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

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