



# Ascension PCA

March 29, 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.

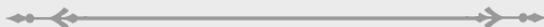
*Clipboards for kids* are available to encourage our children to participate in our worship together. Stop by the special Kids Table to pick up clipboards and crayons for your child.

## **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

*I am safe, not because I have no trouble,  
or because I never experience danger.*

*I am safe, not because people affirm me,  
or my plans always work out.*

*I am safe, not because I am wise or strong.*

*I am safe, not because I deserve comfort  
or have earned my ease.*

*I am safe because of the glorious mystery of grace.*

*I am safe because of the presence of boundless love.*

*I am safe because of divine mercy, divine wisdom,  
divine power, and divine grace.*

*I am safe, not because I never face danger,  
but because You are with me in it.*

*I am safe because You have given me the one thing  
that is the only thing that will ever keep me safe.*

*You have given me You.*

***The name of the LORD is a strong tower;***

***The righteous man runs into it and is safe.*** (Proverbs 18:10)

~ Paul David Tripp

# 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

### CALL TO WORSHIP

M: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!

**P: Great is His power  
and of His wisdom there is no end.**

M: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion,  
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your King comes to you  
gentle and riding on a donkey.

**P: He shall have dominion from sea to sea  
and from the river unto the ends of the earth.  
All nations will be blessed through Him  
and they shall call Him blessed.**

M: All kings will bow down to Him  
and all nations will serve Him.  
For He will deliver the needy who cry out,  
the afflicted who have no one to help.

**P: He will take pity on the weak and the needy  
and save the needy from death.  
He will rescue them from oppression and violence,  
for precious is their blood in His sight.**

M: Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel,  
who alone does marvelous deeds.

**P: Praise be to His glorious name forever;  
may the whole earth be filled with His glory.**

M: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

**P: Hosanna in the highest!**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim*

**Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim;  
all ye His servants, praise His name,  
who in the Lord's house ever stand  
and humbly serve at His command.**

**The Lord is good, His praise proclaim;  
since it is pleasant, praise His name;  
His people for His own He takes  
and His peculiar treasure makes.**

**I know the Lord is high in state,  
above all gods our Lord is great;  
the Lord performs what He decrees,  
in heav'n and earth, in depths and seas.  
He makes the vapors to ascend  
in clouds from earth's remotest end;  
the lightnings flash at His command;  
He holds the tempest in His hand.**

**Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim;  
all ye His servants, praise His name,  
who in the Lord's house ever stand  
and humbly serve at His command.  
Forever praise and bless His name,  
and in the church His praise proclaim;  
in Zion is His dwelling place;  
praise ye the Lord, show forth His grace.**

Words from Psalm 135, *The Psalter* (1912).

Music by Franz Joseph Haydn, from *The Creation* (1798; arr.).

PUBLIC DOMAIN

### *Tell Out, My Soul*

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
Tender to me the promise of His word;  
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!  
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!  
Powers, dominions lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!**

Words by Timothy Dudley-Smith (1961).

Music by Holly Dutton (2001);

Words: ©1961 Hope Publishing Company. Music: ©2001 Dutton, Holly

# 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 108:1-13*

*Elder Brian Walsh*

- 1 My heart is steadfast, O God!  
I will sing and make melody with all my being!
- 2 Awake, O harp and lyre!  
I will awake the dawn!
- 3 I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples;  
I will sing praises to You among the nations.
- 4 For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens;  
Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.
- 5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let Your glory be over all the earth!
- 6 That Your beloved ones may be delivered,  
give salvation by Your right hand and answer me!
- 7 God has promised in His holiness:  
"With exultation I will divide up Shechem  
and portion out the Valley of Succoth.  
8 Gilead is Mine; Manasseh is Mine;  
Ephraim is My helmet,  
Judah My scepter.  
9 Moab is My washbasin;  
upon Edom I cast My shoe;  
over Philistia I shout in triumph."
- 10 Who will bring me to the fortified city?  
Who will lead me to Edom?
- 11 Have You not rejected us, O God?  
You do not go out, O God, with our armies.
- 12 Oh grant us help against the foe,  
for vain is the salvation of man!
- 13 With God we shall do valiantly;  
it is He who will tread down our foes.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: God Almighty, God of all mercy and grace,  
we come to confess our failures.**

**Father, our songs have too often become vain babbling  
rather than joyful confessions of Your perfection  
and passionate celebrations of Your salvation.**

**Jesus, we have freely sung the praises  
of earthly pleasure and passing beauty  
while remaining smugly silent  
concerning Your saving grace.**

**Holy Spirit, we have relied too much  
on our own strength  
and failed to remember Your presence  
and Your power in our lives.**

**Forgive our folly and refresh our souls.  
Fill us again with the joy of salvation,  
that we might again sing,  
"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the Lord!" 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

*from Zephaniah 3:14-17*

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart...

The LORD has taken away your punishment,  
He has turned back your enemy.

The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;  
never again will you fear any harm...

"Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands hang limp.

The LORD your God is with you,  
He is mighty to save.

He will take great delight in you,  
He will quiet you with his love,  
He will rejoice over you with singing."

*In Jesus your sins are forgiven!*

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

*He Was Wounded*

**He was wounded for our transgressions,  
He bore our sins in His body on the tree;  
For our guilt He gave us peace,  
from our bondage gave release,  
and with His stripes, and with His stripes,  
and with His stripes our souls are healed.**

**He was numbered among transgressors,  
we did esteem Him forsaken by His God;  
As our sacrifice He died,  
that the law be satisfied,  
and all our sin, and all our sin,  
and all our sin was laid on Him.**

**We had wandered, we all had wandered  
far from the fold of "the Shepherd of the sheep";  
But He sought us where we were,  
on the mountains bleak and bare,  
and brought us home, and brought us home,  
and brought us safely home to God.**

**Who can number His generation?  
Who shall declare all the triumphs of His cross?  
Millions, dead, now live again,  
myriads follow in His train!  
Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,  
victorious Lord and coming King!  
Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,  
victorious Lord and coming King!**

Words by Thomas O. Chisholm (1920).

Music by Joseph N. Partain (1977).

Words: PUBLIC DOMAIN. Music © 2015 Nathan Partain

## **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**

*Mark 14:32-42*

<sup>32</sup> And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup> And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup> And He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." <sup>35</sup> And going a little farther, He fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. <sup>36</sup> And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Remove this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You will." <sup>37</sup> And He came and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep?"





# SONG OF THANKSGIVING

## *Glorious Christ*

**The radiance of the Father  
before the dawn of time;  
You spoke and all creation came to be.  
The molecules and planets  
reveal Your great design,  
and every one was made so we could see,  
so we could see:**

***You are the glorious Christ,  
the greatest of all delights.  
Your power is unequalled,  
Your love beyond all heights.***

***No greater sacrifice  
than when You laid down Your life.  
We join the song of angels  
who praise You day and night,  
Glorious Christ.***

**You left the air of heaven  
to breathe the dust of earth,  
and dwell among the outcast and the poor.  
You came to be forsaken  
and died to take our curse,  
so You could be our joy forevermore,  
forevermore.**

***You are the glorious Christ,  
the greatest of all delights.  
Your power is unequalled,  
Your love beyond all heights.***

***No greater sacrifice  
than when You laid down Your life.  
We join the song of angels  
who praise You day and night ...***

***You are the glorious Christ,  
the greatest of all delights.  
Your power is unequalled,  
Your love beyond all heights.***

***No greater sacrifice  
than when You laid down Your life.  
We join the song of angels  
who praise You day and night,  
Glorious Christ.***

# RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

Do you believe the Scriptures to be the Word of God and the final authoritative rule of life and faith?

Do you acknowledge your need for the grace of God, humbling yourself, offering no morality or righteousness of your own, but asking only for the mercy of God in Christ?

Do you accept Christ as the sacrifice for your sin, as the Prophet for all your truth, and as the King of all your life, resting on Him and His righteousness alone for your salvation?

Do you pledge to live a life worthy of your calling by reliance on the Holy Spirit according to the Word of God?

Do you promise to support this communion with your prayers and offerings, to strive for its purity and peace, and to submit to its leadership in all biblical things?

*To the Body of Christ: (please stand)*

M: Do you as a congregation, now welcome these brothers and sisters as members of this body?

**P: We do.**

M: Do you promise to take seriously your responsibilities to build up them up and to seek to practice with them true Christian community and true Biblical church life?

**P: We do.**

# 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

### 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.*

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

## SONG OF MEDITATION

*The Power of the Cross*

**Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day.  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then  
nailed to a cross of wood.**

**Oh, to see the pain written on Your face,  
bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed,  
crowning Your bloodstained brow.**

*This the pow'r of the cross;  
Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath —  
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

**Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath  
quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life;  
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry.**

*This the pow'r of the cross;  
Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath —  
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

**Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,  
for through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,  
won through Your selfless love!**

*This the pow'r of the cross;  
Son of God — slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross!*

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend.  
© 2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

## 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

The Holy Bible, **English Standard Version**.

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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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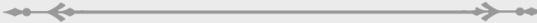
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ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

**9:00AM:** Discipleship Hour  
**10:00AM:** Worship Service (in-person & livestream)

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**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 838, Lynnwood, WA 98046

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