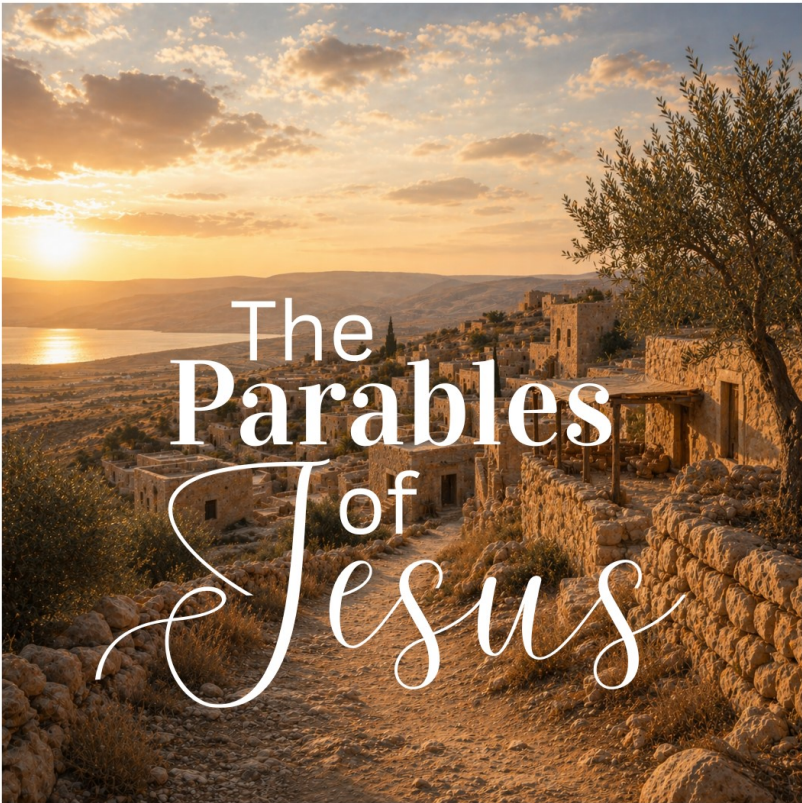




Ascension PCA

May 17, 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

The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
You hold my lot.

The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.

For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life;
in Your presence there is fullness of joy;
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

~ Psalm 16:5-6, 9-11

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

ending in the Lord's Prayer

**P: Our Father, Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 55:1-3a,6

M: "Come everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to Me;
hear that your soul may live. ...
Seek the LORD while He may be found;
call upon Him while He is near."

SONGS OF PRAISE

Psalms 66

**All lands to God in joyful sounds,
aloft your voices raise;
sing forth the honor of His name,
and glorious make His praise.
Sing forth the honor of His name,
and glorious make His praise.**

**Yes, all the earth shall worship Thee
and unto Thee shall sing;
and to Thy name most glorious,
their songs of praise shall bring.
And to Thy name most glorious,
their songs of praise shall bring.**

**O all ye people, bless our God;
aloud proclaim His praise,
Who holdeth safe our soul in life,
our feet from sliding stays.
Who holdeth safe our soul in life,
our feet from sliding stays.**

*Words based on Scottish Psalter (1650), the Book of Psalms (1871),
and The Psalter (1912).
©1994 Trinity Psalter, Crown & Covenant Publications*

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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Publishing; Messenger Hymns.

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

Psalms 114

Elder Philip Suh

- 1 When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- 2 Judah became His sanctuary,
Israel His dominion.
- 3 The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills like lambs.
- 5 What ails you, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
- 6 O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Psalm 25:4-11

**P: Make me to know Your ways, O LORD;
teach me Your paths.**

**Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
for You are the God of my salvation;
for You I wait all the day long.**

**Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
and Your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

**Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions;
according to Your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

**Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore He instructs sinners in the way.**

**He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble His way.**

**All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love
and faithfulness,**

**for those who keep His covenant
and His testimonies.**

**For Your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

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

Hebrews 10:11-14

...every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in Thee;
let the water and the blood,
from Thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
cleansing me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**Not the labors of my hands
can fulfil Thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to Thy cross I cling;
naked, come to Thee for dress;
helpless, look to Thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,
when my eyes shall close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in Thee.**

Words by Augustus Montague Toplady (1776);
altered by Thomas Cotterill (1815).
Music by Thomas Hastings (1830).
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

Matthew 13:24-46

²⁴ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.

²⁷ And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'

³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

³³ He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.

³⁴ All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables;
I will utter what has been hidden
since the foundation of the world.

³⁶ Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Let Your Kingdom Come

**Your glorious cause, O God,
engages our hearts.
May Jesus Christ be known
wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves,
but for Your renown.
The cross has saved us so we pray:
"Your kingdom come!"**

***Let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done,
so that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done.***

Let Your kingdom come!

**Give us Your strength, O God,
and courage to speak.
Perform Your wondrous deeds
through those who are weak.
Lord, use us as You want,
whatever the test;
By grace we'll preach Your Gospel 'til
our dying breath.**

***Let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done,
so that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done...***

***Let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done,
so that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done.***

Let Your kingdom come!

Words and music by Bob Kauflin
Based on *The Valley of Vision* prayer "God's Cause"
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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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

**P: Heavenly Father, we give You everlasting praise and thanks
that You have given us, poor sinners,
so great a benefit —
that You have drawn us into the communion of Your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior,
whom You surrendered to death for us
and whom You give to us as food and nourishment
for eternal life.**

**Grant us now this benefit, also:
that You will never allow us to forget these truths,
but rather, having them imprinted on our hearts,
we may grow and thrive vigorously in faith,
a faith committed to all good works,
and that in so doing we may order and direct
our whole human life
to the exaltation of Your glory
and for the good of our neighbor,
through the same Jesus Christ, your Son,
who in the unity of the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns with You eternally. 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

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).
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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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Holy Bible, **New International Version**®, NIV®

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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
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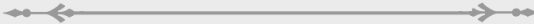
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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

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