



Ascension PCA

June 21, 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.

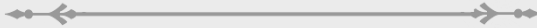
Clipboards for kids are available to encourage our children to participate in our worship together. Stop by the special Kids Table to pick up clipboards and crayons for your child.

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

*Wisdom is man's true strength;
and, under its guidance,
he best accomplishes the ends of his being.
Wisely handling the matter of life gives to man
the richest enjoyment,
and presents the noblest occupation for his powers;
hence by it he finds good in the fullest sense.
Without wisdom, man is as the wild ass's colt,
running hither and thither...*

*But where shall this wisdom be found? ...
Let us listen to the voice of the Lord,
for He hath declared the secret;
He hath revealed to the sons of men wherein true wisdom lieth,
and we have it in the text,
"Whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he."
The true way to handle a matter wisely is to trust in the Lord.*

~ Spurgeon, *Morning and Evening*

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

Elder Theo Vander Wel

CALL TO WORSHIP

Romans 11:33–36

L: Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom
and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable His judgments,
and His paths beyond tracing out!

“Who has known the mind of the Lord?

Or who has been His counselor?”

“Who has ever given to God, that God should repay Him?”

**P: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever! Amen.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Eric Stark

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem

and crown Him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem

and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,

ye ransomed from the fall,

hail Him who saves you by His grace

and crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him who saves you by His grace

and crown Him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,

on this terrestrial ball

to Him all majesty ascribe

and crown Him Lord of all.

To Him all majesty ascribe

and crown Him Lord of all!

**O that with yonder sacred throng
we at His feet may fall.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Him Lord of all!**

Verses 1-2 by Edward Perronet (1779); verse 3 by John Rippon (1787).
Music by Oliver Holden (1793).
PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Psalm 42

**Why my soul are you downcast?
Why are you troubled within?
For I will hope in my Saviour, my God.
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.
I 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 grace 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 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 119:1-24

Elder Theo Vander Wel

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!
- 2 Blessed are those who keep His testimonies,
who seek Him with their whole heart,
- 3 who also do no wrong,
but walk in His ways!
- 4 You have commanded Your precepts
to be kept diligently.
- 5 Oh that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping Your statutes!
- 6 Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.
- 7 I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn Your righteous rules.
- 8 I will keep Your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me!
- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to Your word.
- 10 With my whole heart I seek You;
let me not wander from Your commandments!
- 11 I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against You.
- 12 Blessed are you, O LORD;
teach me Your statutes!
- 13 With my lips I declare
all the rules of Your mouth.
- 14 In the way of Your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.
- 15 I will meditate on Your precepts
and fix my eyes on Your ways.
- 16 I will delight in Your statutes;
I will not forget Your word.
- 17 Deal bountifully with Your servant,
that I may live and keep Your word.
- 18 Open my eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of Your law.

- 19 I am a sojourner on the earth;
hide not Your commandments from me!
20 My soul is consumed with longing
for Your rules at all times.
21 You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones,
who wander from Your commandments.
22 Take away from me scorn and contempt,
for I have kept Your testimonies.
23 Even though princes sit plotting against me,
Your servant will meditate on Your statutes.
24 Your testimonies are my delight;
they are my counselors.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: Heavenly Father, You have sent Your prophets
and apostles
and they commanded us to believe and obey
the Gospel of Your Son.**

**Indeed, You sent us Your own Son
who is the radiance of Your glory,
the exact representation of Your being.**

**But we, O Lord, have neglected You and Your Word.
We do not meditate on the record
of Your mighty works on our behalf.**

**We do not study the laws You gave us to light our path.
We do not even delight much in the promise
of our own salvation and eternal comforts.**

**Our eyes are not trained to study Your Word,
but we have pleased them with more sleep,
more entertainment,
and hundreds of pages from human authors.**

**God, have mercy, for
“All men are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the Word of the Lord stands forever.”**

**According to Your promise, have mercy on us,
and give us the grace promised in Your Word.
Make us love the Word 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.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Blessed Assurance

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.**

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love.**

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

Words by Fanny J. Crosby (1873). Music by Phoebe P. Knapp (1873).
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.

PRAYER

Elder Theo Vander Wel

READING OF THE WORD

Rev. Rick DeMass

Proverbs 31:10-31

- 10 An excellent wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
- 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
- 12 She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
- 13 She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
- 14 She is like the ships of the merchant;
she brings her food from afar.
- 15 She rises while it is yet night
and provides food for her household
and portions for her maidens.
- 16 She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- 17 She dresses herself with strength
and makes her arms strong.
- 18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- 19 She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
- 20 She opens her hand to the poor
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- 21 She is not afraid of snow for her household,
for all her household are clothed in scarlet.
- 22 She makes bed coverings for herself;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- 23 Her husband is known in the gates
when he sits among the elders of the land.
- 24 She makes linen garments and sells them;
she delivers sashes to the merchant.
- 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
- 26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- 27 She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art.**

**High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all ...
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Ancient Irish Poem, translated by Mary E. Byrne (1905),
versified by Eleanor H. Hull (1912)
Traditional Irish melody, arranged by David Evans (1927)
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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Rev. Rick DeMass

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,
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 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.

Beautiful, Scandalous Night

**Go on up to the mountain of mercy
to the crimson perpetual tide;
Kneel down on the shore,
be thirsty no more.
Go under and be purified.**

**Follow Christ to the holy mountain.
Sinner, sorry and wrecked by fall,
cleanse your heart and your soul
in the fountain that flowed
for you and for me and for all.**

*At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree,
on that beautiful, scandalous night
you and me
were atoned by His blood
and forever washed white
on that beautiful, scandalous night.*

**On the hillside you will be delivered,
at the foot of the cross justified.
And your spirit restored
by the river that poured
from our blessed Savior's side.**

*At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree,
on that beautiful, scandalous night
you and me
were atoned by His blood
and forever washed white
on that beautiful, scandalous night.*

**Go on up to the mountain of mercy
to the crimson perpetual tide;
Kneel down on the shore,
be thirsty no more.**

Go under and be purified.

***At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree,
on that beautiful, scandalous night
you and me
were atoned by His blood
and forever washed white
on that beautiful, scandalous night.***

***At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree,
on that beautiful, scandalous night
you and me
were atoned by His blood
and forever washed white
on that beautiful, scandalous night ...
... Oh, on that beautiful, scandalous night ...
... Oh, on that beautiful, scandalous night.***

Words and music by Derald Daugherty and Steve Hindalong
© 1995 Never Say Never Songs

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.

RECESSIONAL SONG

There Is A Fountain

**There is a fountain filled with blood,
drawn from Immanuel's veins;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
lose all their guilty stains:
lose all their guilty stains,
lose all their guilty stains;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
lose all their guilty stains.**

**The dying thief rejoiced to see
that fountain in his day;
and there have I, as vile as he,
washed all my sins away:**

washed all my sins away,
washed all my sins away;
and there have I, as vile as he,
washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
shall never lose its pow'r,
till all the ransomed Church of God
be saved, to sin no more:
be saved, to sin no more,
be saved, to sin no more;
till all the ransomed Church of God
be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die:
and shall be till I die,
and shall be till I die;
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.

When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue
lies silent in the grave:
then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save,
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save,
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save;
then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

There is a fountain filled with blood,
drawn from Immanuel's veins;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
lose all their guilty stains.

Words by William Cowper (1771; Mod.).
Music by Edwin Othello Excell and Lowell Mason (1830).
PUBLIC DOMAIN

BENEDICTION

Rev. Rick DeMass



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

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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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