



Ascension PCA

July 12, 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.

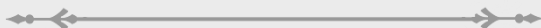
Clipboards for kids are available to encourage our children to participate in our worship together. Stop by the special Kids Table to pick up clipboards and crayons for your child.

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 more genuine and the deeper our community becomes, the more will everything else between us recede, the more clearly and purely will Jesus Christ and his work become the one and only thing that is vital between us.

We have one another only through Christ, but through Christ we do have one another, wholly, and for all eternity.

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

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 Brian Walsh

CALL TO WORSHIP

From 1 Peter 1

L: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

P: To you, O Lord, be the glory forever and ever!

SONGS OF PRAISE

Peter Contreras

The God of Abram Praise

**The God of Abram praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of Everlasting Days
and God of love.
Jehovah, great I AM!
By earth and heav'n confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred Name
forever blest.**

**The God of Abram praise,
at whose supreme command
from earth I rise and seek the joys
at His right hand.
I all on earth forsake,
its wisdom, fame, and pow'r;
and Him my only portion make,
my shield and tow'r.**

**He by Himself hath sworn;
I on this oath depend.
I shall, on eagles wings upborne,
to heaven ascend.
I shall behold His face;
I shall His pow'r adore,
and sing the wonders of His grace,
forevermore.**

**The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high:
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"
they ever cry.**

**Hail, Abram's God and mine!
I join the heav'nly lays;
all might and majesty are Thine
and endless praise.**

Words by Thomas Olivers (1770). Music by Nathan Partain (2003)
Words: PUBLIC DOMAIN. Music: ©2003 Partain, Nathan

This Is Our God

**God our Father, full of power,
Maker of the heavens,
Maker of the world.
Forming all things, seen and unseen,
truly the Almighty,
beyond all measure worth;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son; this is our God!
We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim: this is our God!***

**Our Lord Jesus sent to save us,
born unto a virgin,
lived a perfect life.
Greatly suffered, dying for us.
From the grave He's risen,
seated now on high;
Holy is His Name!**

***We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son; this is our God!
We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim: this is our God!***

**Spirit, holy, One in glory,
speaking through the prophets,
empowering the Church.
Life is given by and through Him,
with the Son and Father,
worshipped and adored;
Holy is His Name!**

**We believe the Lord our God is One,
Father, Spirit, Son; this is our God!
We believe forever He will reign.
Let the church proclaim: this is our God!**

Inspired by the Nicene Creed (325 A.D.)

Words and music by Dave Fournier, Doug Plank, George Romanacce,
Neil DeGraide, Zach Jones (2015).

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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 119:73–96

Elder Brian Walsh

- 73 Your hands have made and fashioned me;
give me understanding that I may learn
Your commandments.
- 74 Those who fear You shall see me and rejoice,
because I have hoped in Your word.
- 75 I know, O LORD, that Your rules are righteous,
and that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.
- 76 Let Your steadfast love comfort me
according to Your promise to Your servant.
- 77 Let Your mercy come to me, that I may live;
for Your law is my delight.
- 78 Let the insolent be put to shame,
because they have wronged me with falsehood;
as for me, I will meditate on Your precepts.
- 79 Let those who fear You turn to me,
that they may know Your testimonies.
- 80 May my heart be blameless in Your statutes,
that I may not be put to shame!
- 81 My soul longs for Your salvation;
I hope in Your word.
- 82 My eyes long for Your promise;
I ask, "When will You comfort me?"
- 83 For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
yet I have not forgotten Your statutes.
- 84 How long must Your servant endure?
When will You judge those who persecute me?
- 85 The insolent have dug pitfalls for me;
they do not live according to Your law.

86 All Your commandments are sure;
they persecute me with falsehood; help me!
87 They have almost made an end of me on earth,
but I have not forsaken Your precepts.
88 In Your steadfast love give me life,
that I may keep the testimonies of Your mouth.
89 Forever, O LORD, Your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.
90 Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You have established the earth, and it stands fast.
91 By Your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are Your servants.
92 If Your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.
93 I will never forget Your precepts,
for by them You have given me life.
94 I am Yours; save me,
for I have sought Your precepts.
95 The wicked lie in wait to destroy me,
but I consider Your testimonies.
96 I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but Your commandment is exceedingly broad.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**P: O Father, we are gathered before you,
the Maker of Heaven and Earth,
whose chosen dwelling place
is with the broken and contrite,
to confess —
that we have sinned in thought and word and deed;
that we have not loved you with all our heart and soul,
that we have not loved you with all our mind
and strength;
that we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, deepen our sorrow
for the wrong we have done
and for the good we have left undone,
so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred.**

**But, please Father, do not leave us in sorrow.
With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness.
In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation;
so that we may love you with a holy love.
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

Romans 5:8

God shows his love for us
in that while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Through the Precious Blood

**You have ordained ev'ry breath we take,
in pleasure or pain there is no mistake.
Gladness and grief, both are in Your hands,
and sufferings brief carry out Your plan.**

**And our fleeting sorrows
will yield an endless prize,
when some bright tomorrow
we'll see You with our eyes.**

*And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down;
And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down
through the precious blood of Christ.*

**Father of lights, Giver of all grace,
Your mercies crown our lives all our days;
River of life quench our thirsty souls,
for no true delight does Your love withhold.**

**And in every season
we are satisfied,
for just one reason:
Christ was crucified.**

*And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down;
And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down ...*

*And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down;
And grace upon grace
flows down, flows down
through the precious blood of Christ.*

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 CJ DeGroot

READING OF THE WORD

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

¹² What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ."

¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

"Unity and Division"

SERMON NOTES: _____

**Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed.
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

**Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with Thee.**

Words by Samuel J. Stone (1866). Music by Brian Moss (1996).
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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

Rev. Ed Volz

CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

Nicene-Constantinopolitan 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 of God,
Light of 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;
and 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;
and He shall 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;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by 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

Take My Life and Let it Be

**Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for Thee,
swift and beautiful for Thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from Thee,
filled with messages from Thee.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for Thee,
ever, only, all for Thee.**

Words by Frances R. Havergal (1874)
Music by Henri A. César Malan (1827)
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

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
to the **P.O. Box mailing address** listed on the back page.

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ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

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