



August 9, 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

On depending on God through prayer:

They say it may cause the mind to be occupied with questions: What shall I eat? What shall I drink? What shall I wear? I have experienced both ways and know that my present manner of living by trusting God for temporal things is connected with less care...

In this freedom, I am able to say, "My Lord is not limited. He knows my present situation, and He can supply all I need." Rather than causing anxiety, living by faith in God alone keeps my heart in perfect peace.

~ George Müller, *Autobiography*

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 Philip Suh

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 91 and Romans 10

L: Let us worship the LORD!

P: He is our refuge and fortress, our God in Whom we trust.

L: Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord,"
and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead.

P: Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.

L: Let us call upon the triune God,
believing Him in our hearts,
confessing Him with our mouths,
worshipping Him in Spirit and truth.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Lead On, O King Eternal

**Lead on, O King eternal,
the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.**

**Lead on, O King eternal,
'til sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy,
the heav'nly kingdom comes.**

**Lead on, O King eternal,
we follow, not with fears;
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er Thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted o'er us,
we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!**

Words by Ernest W. Shurtleff (1888). Music by Henry T. Smart (1836).
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

Psalms 119:169–176

Elder Philip Suh

- 169 Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to Your word!
- 170 Let my plea come before You;
deliver me according to Your word.
- 171 My lips will pour forth praise,
for You teach me Your statutes.
- 172 My tongue will sing of Your word,
for all Your commandments are right.
- 173 Let Your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen Your precepts.
- 174 I long for Your salvation, O LORD,
and Your law is my delight.
- 175 Let my soul live and praise You,
and let Your rules help me.
- 176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant,
for I do not forget Your commandments.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN READING

L: Seek the LORD while He may be found;
call on Him while He is near.
Give God the glory and confess your iniquity and say,

**P: Almighty God, everlasting and merciful Father,
behold, in iniquity we were made,
and in sin our mothers conceived us.
To you we confess and acknowledge
all our sins and transgressions.
We have not believed Your Word
and we have gone aside from Your way;
our whole life is vain transgression.
In Your mercy and goodness remember, O Lord,
these who are gathered from the world.
Remember not the sins of our youth
or our rebellious ways,
but according to Your mercy remember us.
For the sake of Your goodness and Your name, O Lord,
forgive our sins, though they are great,
and be merciful to us.
Now let us be comforted and be glad
and hear the good tidings of the gospel.
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

2 Chronicles 7:14

"If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

SONG OF ASSURANCE

He Will Hold Me Fast

**When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.**

**I could never keep my hold
through life's fearful path;
for my love is often cold;
He must hold me fast.**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.***

**Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
precious in His holy sight,
He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last;
bought by Him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast.**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.***

**For my life He bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied,
He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life;
He will hold me fast;
'till our faith is turned to sight,
when He comes at last!**

***He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.
He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.***

Lyrics vv. 1–2 by Ada Habershon (1861–1918).

Alt words vv. 1–2, lyrics v.3, and music by Matt Merker (2013).

PUBLIC DOMAIN | © 2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music

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 Philip Suh

READING OF THE WORD

Rev. Braden Carter

Mark 9:14-29

¹⁴ And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them.

¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw [Jesus], were greatly amazed and ran up to Him and greeted Him.

¹⁶ And He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"

¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able."

¹⁹ And He answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me."

²⁰ And they brought the boy to Him. And when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

²¹ And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?"

And he said, "From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

²³ And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes."

²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶ And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

²⁸ And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"

²⁹ And He said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

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

"What is Confident Faith?"

SERMON NOTES: _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PRAYER

GIVING TO THE LORD

Psalm 50:12,14

"If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and its fullness are Mine.
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and perform your vows to the Most High."

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Be Thou My Vision

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that Thou art —
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.**

**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.**

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Rev. Braden Carter

CONFESSING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

Philippians 2:5-11

**P: Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself,
by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.
And being found in human form,
He humbled himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death,
even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God has highly exalted Him
and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
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

When I See the Blood

**Christ, our Redeemer, died on the cross,
Died for the sinner, paid all his due.
Sprinkle your soul with the blood of the Lamb,
And I'll pass over you.**

**Chiefest of sinners, Jesus can save;
All He has promised, surely He'll do;
Wash in the fountain where sinners can bathe,
And I'll pass over you.**

***When I see the blood of my Holy One
My wrath shall be quenched,
My judgments be through.
When I see the blood of my only Son,
Yes, I will pass over you.***

**Judgment is coming, and all will be there,
Each one receiving justly his due.
Hide in the saving, sin-cleansing blood,
And I'll pass over you.**

***When I see the blood of my Holy One
My wrath shall be quenched,
My judgments be through.
When I see the blood of my only Son,
Yes, I will pass over you.***

**O great compassion! O boundless love!
Now crowned with power, Jesus is true;
Find peace and shelter under His blood,
And I'll pass over you.**

***When I see the blood of my Holy One
My wrath shall be quenched,
My judgments be through.
When I see the blood of my only Son,
Yes, I will pass over you.***

Words by John G. Foote (19th century)

Music by Nathan Partain (2004)

Words: PUBLIC DOMAIN. Music: © 2004 Nathan Partain

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 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).
© 2022 CityAlight Music

BENEDICTION



Song lyrics reproduced by permission: **CCL#11181050**

Scripture text from

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

©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.



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.

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

PASTOR:

Rev. Nate Hitchcock

nate@ascension-pca.org

PASTOR EMERITUS:

Rev. Ed Volz

volz.edw@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER:

Rina Kroes

office@ascension-pca.org

RULING ELDERS:

C.J. DeGroot

cjdegroot@ascension-pca.org

Rich Rios

rich@ascension-pca.org

Philip Suh

philipsuh@ascension-pca.org

Theo Vander Wel

theo@ascension-pca.org

Brian Walsh

brian@ascension-pca.org

DEACONS:

Bob Briest

bob_briest@ascension-pca.org

Garret Holt

garret@ascension-pca.org

Bill Park

bill@ascension-pca.org

Mike Wheeler

mike@ascension-pca.org

TREASURER:

Jason Rutherford

jason@ascension-pca.org

MEDIA (SOUND & PROJECTION):

Andrew Tanamas

andrewtanamas@gmail.com

NURSERY COORDINATOR:

Anna Hitchcock [temp]

hitchcrew@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR:

Monica Sledge

cmkesledge@gmail.com

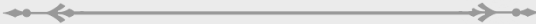
MEAL COORDINATORS:

Sheila Bloedow

s.bloedow@comcast.net

Colette Hudson

colette.hudson@gmail.com



ASCENSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASCENSION-PCA.ORG

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

Meeting Address: 8224 220th Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98026

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

APC Office: Mon & Wed & Fri (9:00AM–5:00PM)
(425) 286-8617 *office@ascension-pca.org*