

September 27, 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

*Who are we, Lord God, that You have brought us here, to present
ourselves before You? Who are we, that we have, through Christ,
access by on Spirit to the Father?*

*Whom have we in heaven but You? We desire no one besides You.
No one compares to You. When our flesh and our heart fail, be
the strength of our heart and portion forever. You are the portion
of our inheritance in the other world, and of our cup in this
world. Our heritage is good.*

*We will trust in Your mercy, O God, forever and ever. We will wait
on You. Amen*

-Matthew Henry

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: Deuteronomy 7:9 & 32:4

M: The LORD your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping
His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those
who love Him and keep His commands.

**P: He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways
are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright
and just is He.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Is He Worthy?

Do you feel the world is broken? **(We do)**

Do you feel the shadows deepen? **(We do)**

But do you know that all the dark won't stop
the light from getting through? **(We do)**

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **(We do)**

Is all creation groaning? **(It is)**

Is a new creation coming? **(It is)**

Is the glory of the Lord to be
the light within our midst? **(It is)**

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **(It is)**

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah

who conquered the grave,

***He is David's Root and the Lamb who died
to ransom the slave.***

***Is He worthy, is He worthy
of all blessing and honor and glory?***

Is He worthy of this? He is!

Does the Father truly love us? **(He does)**

Does the Spirit move among us? **(He does)**
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold
forever those He loves? **(He does)**
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **(He does)**

***Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?***

***The Lion of Judah
who conquered the grave,
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died
to ransom the slave.***

***From ev'ry people and tribe,
every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God
to reign with the Son.***

***Is He worthy, is He worthy
of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy, is He worthy,
is He worthy of this? He is!***

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is!

Words and music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive (2018).

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Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim

**Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim;
all you 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 beloved 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 you 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;
O praise 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

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 125

*Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.
As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds His people,
from this time forth and forever.
For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.
Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts!
But those who turn aside to their crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with evildoers!
Peace be upon Israel!*

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Merciful LORD,

You who are faithful throughout all generations,

**righteous in Your judgments, marvelous in
strength and excellence....
You who are wise in creating and establishing
what You have made....
You who are good, and faithful toward those who
trust in You....
You who show pity and compassion....**

**Forgive us our sins,
our unrighteousness, our transgressions, and
our shortcomings.**

**Do not hold us to account for every sin
but cleanse us with the cleansing of Your truth.**

**Guide our steps to walk in holiness, righteousness, and
singleness of heart.**

**Help us to sow those things that are good and
pleasing in Your sight....
Through Jesus we ask....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 3:4,5a

**M: When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done,
but because of His mercy....**

In Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Christ, our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah!

*Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

*O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.*

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ, He lives! Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
then sin and death will be destroyed,
and we will feast in endless joy,
when Christ is ours forevermore.

*O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.*

*O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.*

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell,
Matt Papa, Matthew Merker
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Love Your Enemies Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, Messenger Hymns

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

Romans 1: 26-32

26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; 27 and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

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

"The Consequences of Rejecting God"

Pastor Nate Hitchcock

SERMON NOTES: _____

PRAYER

GIVING TO THE LORD

O Might One, You have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is Your Name. Bless all we offer You- ourselves, our time, and our possessions - that through us Your grace and favor may be known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners

Jesus, what a Friend for sinners!

Jesus, lover of my soul;

Friends may fail me, foes assail me,

He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Hallelujah! what a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving,

He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!

Let me hide myself in Him.

Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,

He, my strength, my victory wins.

Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Hallelujah! what a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving,

He is with me to the end.

Jesus, I do now receive Him,

more than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine.

Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Hallelujah! what a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving,

He is with me to the end.

Words by J. Wilbur Chapman (1910). Music by Rowland H. Pritchard (1855).

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

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

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

Jesus, Strong and Kind

**Jesus said that if I thirst,
I should come to Him.**

**No one else can satisfy,
I should come to Him.**

**Jesus said if I am weak,
I should come to Him.
No one else can be my strength,
I should come to Him.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful.
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

**Jesus said that if I fear,
I should come to Him.
No one else can be my shield.
I should come to Him.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful.
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

**Jesus said if I am lost,
He will come to me.
And He showed me on that cross,
He will come to me.**

***For the Lord is good and faithful.
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

***For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus.
Jesus, strong and kind.
Jesus, strong and kind.***

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

SONG OF RESPONSE

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 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**.

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 *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*