Ascension PCA

November 8, 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

Blessed be the Lord for another day of mercy,
even though I am now weary with its toils.
To the preserver of humankind I lift up my song of gratitude.
The dove found no rest out of the ark, and therefore returned to it;
similarly, my soul has learned more fully than ever today
that there is no satisfaction to be found in earthly things —
God alone can give rest to my spirit.

Lord, I present You my grateful acknowledgments for tender mercies
which have been new every morning and fresh every evening;
and now, I pray You, put forth Your hand
and take Your dove into Your bosom.

~ Charles Spurgeon

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

from Hebrews 4, Exodus 34, Ephesians 2, 1 Peter 1

M: Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence,
so that we may receive mercy.

**P: We approach the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God,
slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,
maintaining love to thousands,
and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.**

M: God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ
even when we were dead in our trespasses.

P: In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope.

M: So as a church family we worship Him saying,

**P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
He has demonstrated the riches of His mercy to us.
Praise be to the merciful God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ!**

SONGS OF PRAISE

All Creatures of Our God and King

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
*O praise Him! Alleluia!***
**Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
*O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
*O praise Him! Alleluia!***

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words by St. Francis of Assisi (ca. 1225).
translated by William Henry Draper (1926).
Music from *Geistlich Kirchengesäng*, Cologne (1623),
Words ©1926, G. Schirmer. Tune by permission of Oxford University Press

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great;
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.

You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He,
The Lord of Hosts, His name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.

The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth is living still;
His kingdom is forever.

Words and music by Martin Luther (1529);
translated by Frederick H. Hedge (1853)
PUBLIC DOMAIN

GOD CLEANSES 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

Psalm 131

1 O LORD, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.
2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child is my soul within me.
3 O Israel, hope in the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
You are faithful in all Your ways.
Not one word of all Your promises has failed.
But we have not been so loyal to You.
We have cherished and nourished sinful thoughts
and that has resulted in actions contrary to Your Word.

In Your mercy,
again show Yourself faithful and just
to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
For Jesus' sake. 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

John 1:12

But to all who did receive Him [Jesus], who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God…

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Your Will Be Done

Your will be done, my God and Father,
as in heaven, so on earth.
My heart is drawn to self-exalting,
help me seek Your kingdom first.
As Jesus walked, so shall I walk,
held by Your same unchanging love.
Be still my soul, O lift your voice and pray,
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."

How in that garden He persisted,
I may never fully know.
The fearful weight of true obedience,
it was held by Him alone.
What wondrous faith to bear that cross!
To bear my sin, what wondrous love!
My hope was sure when there my Saviour prayed:
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."

When I am lost, when I am broken,
in the night of fear and doubt,
still I will trust in my good Father.
Yes, to one great King I bow!
As Jesus rose, so I shall rise
in ransomed glory at the throne.
My heart restored with all Your saints, I sing:
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."

As we go forth, our God and Father,
lead us daily in the fight.
That all the world might see Your glory
and Your Name be lifted high.
And in this Name we overcome,
for You shall see us safely home.
Now as Your church, we lift our voice and pray:
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."

And in this Name we overcome,
for You shall see us safely home.
Now as Your church, we lift our voice and pray:
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."
"Father, not my will, but Yours be done."

Words and music by Rich Thompson & Jonny Robinson.
© CityAlight 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

READING OF THE WORD

Romans 5:1–11

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with
God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through Him we have also obtained
access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope
of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings,
knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces
character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us
to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through
the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the
ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though
perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — 8 but God
shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for
us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much
more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while
we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son,
much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.
11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 House Jesus Built" *Pastor Nate Hitchcock*

SERMON NOTES: _____

PRAYER

GIVING TO THE LORD

Proverbs 3:9

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
child of weakness, watch and pray,
find in Me thine all in all."

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power, and Thine alone,
can change the leper's spots,
and melt the heart of stone.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I
whereby Thy grace to claim —
I'll wash my garments white
in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
my lips shall still repeat.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Words by Elvina Mabel Hall (1865; mod.).
Music by John Thomas Grape (1868).
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

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.

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