



“Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.” --Psalm 55:2

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 117:1-2

Leader: Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!

All: For His merciful kindness is great toward us, And the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

*Gloria Patri**

GLORIA PATRI (MEINKE)

Irreg. Charles Meineke, 1844

“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.”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION*

*Psalm of Praise**

TUNE: RIPLEY 87.87.D.

“Psalm 146”

Based on the Book of Psalms, 1871, and the Psalter, 1912; altered 1993

Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah! O my soul, Jehovah praise!
I will sing the glorious praises Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;
He shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Jacob’s God to be his aid;
he is blessed whose hope of blessing On the LORD his God is stayed.
He has made the earth and heaven, Seas, and all that they contain;
He will keep His truth forever, rights of those oppressed maintain.

Food Jehovah gives the hungry, sight Jehovah gives the blind,
freedom gives He to the pris’ner, Cheer to those bowed down in mind.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous to the stranger is a stay,
Helps the fatherless and widow, but subverts the sinner’s way.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises Of my God through all my days.
Over all GOD reigns for ever, through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, thy God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, 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 is seated 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 life in the world to come. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Psalms 39:4-8

All: "LORD, make me to know my end, And what is the measure of my days, That I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, And my age is as nothing before You; Certainly every man at his best state is but vapor. Surely every man walks about like a shadow; Surely they busy themselves in vain; He heaps up riches, And does not know who will gather them. And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You. Deliver me from all my transgressions; Do not make me the reproach of the foolish." Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hebrews 9:11-12

Leader: Hear the good news! "But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

***We ask that for the time being you send your tithe checks by mail to our treasurer*

Psalm 3

TUNE: NEW BRITAIN CM

“Amazing Grace”

O LORD, how are my foes increased! Against me many rise.
How many say, “In vain for help he on his God relies!”

You are my shield and glory, LORD; You lifted up my head.
I cried out, “LORD!” and from His hill To me His answer sped.

I lay down, slept, and woke again the LORD is keeping me.
I will not fear ten thousand men entrenched surrounding me.

Arise, O LORD! Save me, my God! You punish all my foes.
You smite the face of wicked men, their teeth break with your blows.

Deliverance is from the LORD, Salvation His alone!
O let Your blessing evermore be on Your people shown!

PASTORAL PRAYER

All: *“Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”*

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Psalm 41:1-13

Leader: Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

All: *The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive, And he will be blessed on the earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies.*

Leader: The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.

All: *I said, “LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.”*

Leader: My enemies speak evil of me: “When will he die, and his name perish?”

All: *And if he comes to see me, he speaks lies; His heart gathers iniquity to itself; When he goes out, he tells it.*

Leader: All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt.

All: *“An evil disease,” they say, “clings to him. And now that he lies down, he will rise up no more.”*

Leader: Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.

All: *But You, O LORD, be merciful to me, and raise me up, That I may repay them.*

Leader: By this I know that You are well pleased with me, Because my enemy does not triumph over me.

All: *As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And set me before Your face forever.*

Leader: Blessed be the LORD God of Israel From everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 9:1-23

Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying: ²“Let the children of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time. ³“On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time. According to all its rites and ceremonies you shall keep it.” ⁴So Moses told the children of Israel that they should keep the Passover. ⁵And they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, at twilight, in the Wilderness of Sinai; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did. ⁶Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; and they came before Moses and Aaron that day. ⁷And those men said to him, “We became defiled by a human corpse. Why are we kept from presenting the offering of the LORD at its appointed time among the children of Israel?” ⁸And Moses said to them, “Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you.” ⁹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁰“Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean because of a corpse, or is far away on a journey, he may still keep the LORD’s Passover. ¹¹“On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight, they may keep it. They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ¹²“They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it. ¹³“But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and ceases to keep the Passover, that same person shall be cut off from among his people, because he did not bring the offering of the LORD at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin. ¹⁴“And if a stranger dwells among you, and would keep the LORD’s Passover, he must do so according to the rite of the Passover and according to its ceremony; you shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger and the native of the land.’” ¹⁵Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire. ¹⁶So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night. ¹⁷Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would pitch their tents. ¹⁸At the command of the LORD the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the LORD they would camp; as

long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped. ¹⁹Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the tabernacle, the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not journey. ²⁰So it was, when the cloud was above the tabernacle a few days: according to the command of the LORD they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the LORD they would journey. ²¹So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey. ²²Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey. ²³At the command of the LORD they remained encamped, and at the command of the LORD they journeyed; they kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Do we begin again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you? ²You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; ³clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart. ⁴And we have such trust through Christ toward God. ⁵Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. ⁷But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, ⁸how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? ⁹For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. ¹⁰For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. ¹¹For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious. ¹²Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech -- ¹³unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. ¹⁴But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. ¹⁵But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. ¹⁶Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

*Hymn of Preparation**

TUNE:AZMON

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Charles Wesley, 1739: alt.

1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise,
 2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3. Je - sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease;
 4. He breaks the pow'r of reign - ing sin, he sets the pris - 'ner free;

the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace.
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 his blood can make the foul - est clean, his blood a - vailed for me.

5. He speaks and, list'n'g to his voice,
 new life the dead receive;
 the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
 the humble poor believe.

6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
 your loosen'd tongues employ;
 ye blind, behold your Savior come;
 and leap, ye lame, for joy.

SERMON

Psalm 55

"This Time It's Personal"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 1 Give ear to my prayer, O God, And do not hide Yourself from my supplication.
- 2 Attend to me, and hear me; I am restless in my complaint, and moan noisily,
- 3 Because of the voice of the enemy, Because of the oppression of the wicked; For they bring down trouble upon me, And in wrath they hate me.
- 4 My heart is severely pained within me, And the terrors of death have fallen upon me.
- 5 Fearfulness and trembling have come upon me, And horror has overwhelmed me.
- 6 So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.
- 7 Indeed, I would wander far off, *And* remain in the wilderness. Selah
- 8 I would hasten my escape From the windy storm *and* tempest."
- 9 Destroy, O Lord, *and* divide their tongues, For I have seen violence and strife in the city.

10 Day and night they go around it on its walls; Iniquity and trouble *are* also in
 the midst of it.
 11 Destruction *is* in its midst; Oppression and deceit do not depart from its streets.
 12 For *it is* not an enemy *who* reproaches me; Then I could bear *it*. Nor *is it* one
who hates me who has exalted *himself* against me; Then I could hide from him.
 13 But *it was* you, a man my equal, My companion and my acquaintance.
 14 We took sweet counsel together, *And* walked to the house of God in the throng.
 15 Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness *is* in
 their dwellings *and* among them.
 16 As for me, I will call upon God, And the LORD shall save me.
 17 Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall
 hear my voice.
 18 He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle *that was* against me, For
 there were many against me.
 19 God will hear, and afflict them, Even He who abides from of old. Selah Because
 they do not change, Therefore they do not fear God.
 20 He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has
 broken his covenant.
 21 *The words* of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war *was* in his heart;
 His words were softer than oil, Yet they *were* drawn swords.
 22 Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never
 permit the righteous to be moved.
 23 But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction; Bloodthirsty
 and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; But I will trust in You.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn of Preparation

TUNE: PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6.D

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153

1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2. What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:
 3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est Friend,

now scorn-ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
for this, thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?

O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
look on me with thy fa - vor, vouch - safe to me thy grace.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INVITATION

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

PASSING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn of Response*

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

"In Christ Alone"

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In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all – Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid – Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine – Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death – This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home – Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand."

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able
CCLI # 174248

Announcements

- The session has decided to cancel the formal church meetings for the time being given the current circumstances. We are livestreaming the worship service starting at 11 a.m. Sunday mornings until further notice. The livestream link can be found at www.wepca.org. We will still record the sermon and upload it on the website too.
- The session wants to exhort the church family to continue to lift one another up in prayer, check on one another, and if you need anything please call Pastor Marc or one of the elders. This is a great opportunity to show our love for one another in real ways!
- We will be having a prayer meeting over Zoom on Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.
- Our next outdoor worship service will be on September 20, at McKean Park, in McKean, PA. The service will start at 11 a.m. followed by a bring your own picnic. We also will be celebrating the Lord's Supper at this service.

- The next men's fellowship breakfast will be on September 5 at 8 a.m., at the IHOP on West 12th street.
- The session would ask that you continue to pray as we actively seek out a place to worship. We have found a place that we feel would work for us and would ask that you would pray about this matter. We also are asking that you prayerfully consider making a one-time gift to help us with the purchase of this property or another one that the Lord may raise up.
- Our website now has a page describing our building need with the option for online giving.
- We will be having a congregational meeting after the service today.

Who Should Take Communion?

The question of who is eligible to receive communion is one of vital importance. In order to draw our minds towards examining ourselves in accordance with the Apostle Paul's exhortation to the church in Corinth, the Session of West Erie Presbyterian Church in America encourages all in attendance today to consider the following questions:

- Do you believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for your sins and rose again bodily from the dead?
- Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ alone for your salvation?
- Have you been baptized?
- Are you a communicate member in good standing of a Bible-believing, gospel proclaiming church?
- Are you pursuing a life of obedience by forsaking sin and striving, by grace and help of the Holy Spirit, to glorify God with your entire life?

If you can answer "Yes" to each of these questions, then the Session of West Erie Presbyterian Church in America welcomes and invites you to partake of the Lord's Supper with us today.

If however, you cannot answer "Yes" to each of these questions – or if you are not sure – then we request that you refrain from partaking at this time. We encourage you to take this time to consider your own personal need for Christ, His abundant provision for the salvation of sinners, as well of the biblical requirement to join a local body of believers in humble submission to Christ's provision of elders and overseers. After the service, please come speak with a member of the Session to discuss the steps necessary to enable you to openly enjoy Communion with Christ and his people through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME!

If you are visiting our church today we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. There are a few things that we would like you to know about West Erie Presbyterian Church.

- We are Historically Reformed.
 - This means that we believe in the inspired and inerrant Word of God.
 - This means we believe in the absolute sovereignty of God.
 - This means we hold to a covenantal framework of Scripture.
 - This means that we believe that salvation is a free gift of God.
- We are Community Oriented.
 - We seek to share the only hope that this world has: that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - We seek to be a church that is salt and light to the community around us and fulfill the Great Commission.
- We are Confessional.
 - As a Christian church, ancient statements such as the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed help us to confess certain basic and essential truths of the Christian faith.
 - As a Presbyterian church, our confessional or doctrinal standards consist of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms (copies of these documents are available from the church).
 - All of these statements are under the authority of Scripture.

We thank you for visiting today! If you have any questions regarding our style of worship please feel free to ask the pastor or one of our elders. We would be happy to talk with you. Also, we would ask you to stay after and enjoy the fellowship of our Christian community. West Erie Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org).

Meeting at Community Country Day School

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