



*“So there they laid Jesus,  
because of the Jews’ Preparation Day,  
for the tomb was nearby.”  
- John 19:24*

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 57:9-10*

Leader: I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing to You among the nations.

*All: For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens, And Your truth unto the clouds.*

## *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\*

## *Hymn of Praise\**

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

## *“Across the Lands”*

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“You’re the Word of God the Father From before the world began.  
Ev’ry star and ev’ry planet Has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together By the power of Your voice.  
Let the skies declare Your glory; Let the land and seas rejoice!

### CHORUS

You’re the Author of creation; You’re the Lord of ev’ry man;  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels, Came to seek and save the lost,  
And exchanged the joy of heaven For the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry; With a word You calmed the sea;  
Yet how silently You suffered That the guilty may go free!

With a shout You rose victorious, Wresting vict’ry from the grave,  
And ascended into heaven, Leading captives in Your way.  
Now You stand before the Father, Interceding for Your own;  
From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home!”

## 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 25:4-7, 11*

**All:** *“Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness’ sake, O LORD. For Your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great.” Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus’ name.*

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Luke 1:68-69, Matthew 1:21*

**Leader:** Hear the good news! “Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of His servant David. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

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

### **Psalm 4**

TUNE: PENITENCE 11.11.11.11

"In the Hour of Trial"

Answer when I call, O God who justifies.  
In my stress You freed me; hear in grace my cries.  
Sons of men, how long will you my glory shame?  
Will you love what's worthless? Will lies be your aim?

Know the LORD His saints has set apart in grace,  
And the LORD will hear me when I seek His face.  
Tremble in your anger, yet from sin depart.  
On your bed in silence speak within your heart.

May you sacrifice now sacrifices just.  
In Jehovah only placing all your trust.  
"Who will show us goodness?" many people say;  
The light of Your face, LORD, lift on us, we pray.

You have given my heart greater joy by far  
than when grain and new wine most abundant are.  
So in peace I lie down; I will rest and sleep,  
For, O LORD, You only will me safely keep.

## 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 90:1-12*

Leader: LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**All:** *Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

Leader: You turn man to destruction, And say, "Return, O children of men."

**All:** *For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it is past, And like a watch in the night.*

Leader: You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up:

*All: In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.*

Leader: For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified.

*All: You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.*

Leader: For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh.

*All: The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.*

Leader: Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.

*All: So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Numbers 21:21-35*

Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, <sup>22</sup>"Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into fields or vineyards; we will not drink water from wells. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory." <sup>23</sup>But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel in the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel. <sup>24</sup>Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified. <sup>25</sup>So Israel took all these cities, and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all its villages. <sup>26</sup>For Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and had taken all his land from his hand as far as the Arnon. <sup>27</sup>Therefore those who speak in proverbs say: "Come to Heshbon, let it be built; Let the city of Sihon be repaired. <sup>28</sup>"For fire went out from Heshbon, A flame from the city of Sihon; It consumed Ar of Moab, The lords of the heights of the Arnon. <sup>29</sup>Woe to you, Moab! You have perished, O people of Chemosh! He has given his sons as fugitives, And his daughters into captivity, To Sihon king of the Amorites. <sup>30</sup>"But we have shot at them; Heshbon has perished as far as Dibon. Then we laid waste as far as Nophah, Which reaches to Medeba." <sup>31</sup>Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites. <sup>32</sup>Then Moses sent to spy out Jazer; and they took its villages and drove out the Amorites who were there. <sup>33</sup>And they turned and went up by the way to Bashan. So Og king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei. <sup>34</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Do not fear him, for I have delivered him into your hand, with all his people and his land; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon." <sup>35</sup>So they defeated him, his sons, and all his people, until there was no survivor left him; and they took possession of his land.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Galatians 6:1-18*

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup> But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. <sup>5</sup> For each one shall bear his own load. <sup>6</sup> Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. <sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup> For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. <sup>9</sup> And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. <sup>11</sup> See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! <sup>12</sup> As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these *would* compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. <sup>14</sup> But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. <sup>16</sup> And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy *be* upon them, and upon the Israel of God. <sup>17</sup> From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. <sup>18</sup> Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen.

### *Psalm of Preparation\**

TUNE: ST. AGNES CM

### *"Psalm 43"*

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

Defend me, God, and plead my case against a godless clan;  
Deliver me from fraudulent, unjust and wicked man.

O God in Whom I refuge take, why have You cast me off?  
Why must I grieving walk about while foes oppress and scoff?

O send Your light forth and Your truth; O let them lead me well  
And bring me to Your holy hill, the place You choose to dwell.

Then I will to God's altar go, To God, my boundless joy.  
To render thanks to God, my God, the harp I will employ.

O why, my soul, are you bowed down? Why so discouraged be?  
Hope now in God! I'll praise Him still! my help, my God is He!

## SERMON

*John 19:38-42*

*"The Burial of Jesus"*

*Pastor Marc Miller*

- <sup>38</sup> After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.
- <sup>39</sup> And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.
- <sup>40</sup> Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.
- <sup>41</sup> Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.
- <sup>42</sup> So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

### *Sermon Notes:*

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

# Hymn of Response\*

TUNE: HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR 7.7.7.8.

# "Man of Sorrows! What a Name"

Phillip P. Bliss, 1875.

1. Man of Sor - rows! what a name for the Son of God, who came  
2. Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, in my place con - demned he stood,  
3. Guilt - y, vile, and help - less, we; spot - less Lamb of God was he;  
4. Lift - ed up was he to die, "It is fin - ished!" was his cry;  
5. When he comes, our glo - rious King, all his ran - somed home to bring,

ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
sealed my par - don with his blood: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
• full a - tone - ment! can it be? Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
now in heav'n ex - alt - ed high: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
then a - new this song we'll sing: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains five lines of lyrics. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass accompaniment.

## BENEDICTION\*

\* --Please stand if able

CCLI # 174248

## **Prayer Requests**

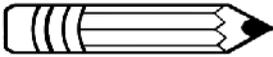
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Kawachi Family
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our elders
- Pray for those dealing with physical ailments
- Pray for our Nation's leaders
- Pray for God's all sufficient grace to be known in all our lives

## **Announcements**

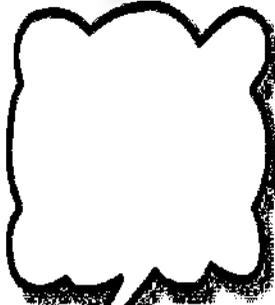
- We will be having a prayer meeting over Zoom on Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.
- The next men's fellowship breakfast will be on Saturday, January 9, at 8 a.m., at the IHOP on west 12<sup>th</sup> street. If you need more information, please contact Pastor Miller.
- We praise God for his faithfulness to us in providing us with a place of our own to worship and the ability to pay it off!
- We will be having on a Christmas Eve Service of Scripture lessons and carols. The service will start at 6:30 p.m.

# Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



As you attend church services with your family, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.



Words you heard but don't know...

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book:

Chapter:

Verse:

What are we learning about God from this passage?

Questions?

The most important thing you learned was:



Favorite song today was:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How does today's message apply to your life?

# 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](http://www.pcanet.org)).

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