



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“IMMEDIATELY HE PREACHED THE CHRIST
IN THE SYNAGOGUES, THAT HE IS THE SON
OF GOD.”

-ACTS 9:20

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, RE TIM WHITBECK

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Revelation 7:12

Leader: Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

*Gloria Patri**

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

Irreg. H.W. Greatorex, 1851

"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**

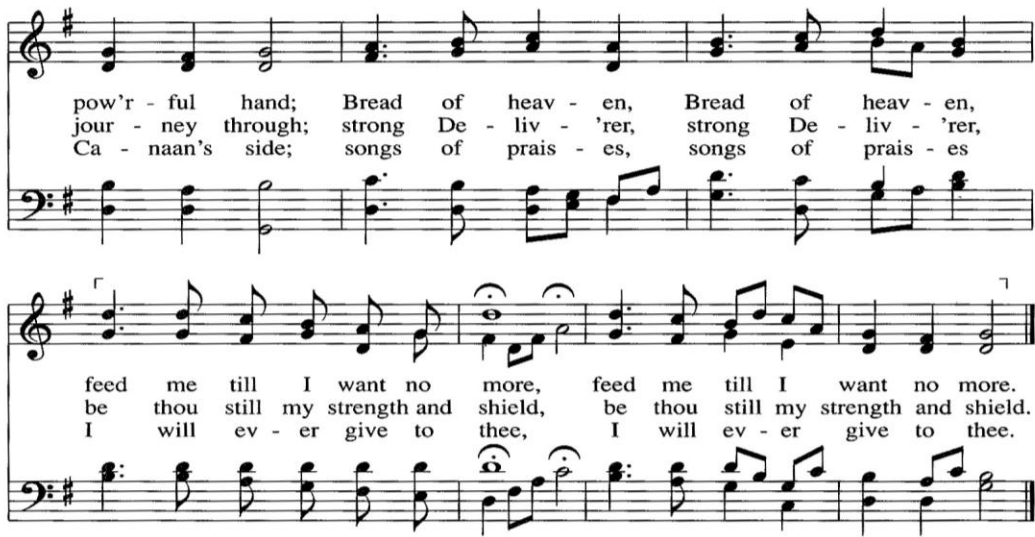
TUNE: CMW RHONDDA 8

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

William Williams, 1745.

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's De - struc - tion, land me safe on



CONFESSION OF FAITH*

Apostle's Creed

All: *I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.*

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

All: *Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and corruption, prone to evil, unable of ourselves to do any good; who, by reason of our sinfulness, transgress Your holy commandments. O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offenses! Be pleased then to have compassion on us, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and corruption, grant us the daily increase of Your Holy Spirit that we might put to death the sin that is within us and bear all the fruit of the Spirit in our daily lives. We trust You for these graces on the basis of the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Titus 3:3-6

Leader: Hear the good news! “For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior.”

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

“Psalm 57:1-4”

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

Thy mercy, God, to me extend;
On Thy protection I depend,
And to Thy wings for shelter haste
Until this storm be overpast.

To Him I will in trouble cry,
The sovereign judge and God most high,
Who wonders hath for me begun,
And will not leave His work undone.

For He from heav’n shall quell the power
Of him who would my life devour;
Forth shall His truth and mercy send,
And my distracted soul defend.

For I with cru-el men converse,
Like hungry lions wild and fierce;
With men whose teeth are spears, their words
Envenomed darts and two-edg’d swords.

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

Psalms 53:1-6

Leader: The fool has said in his heart, "*There is no God.*" They are corrupt, and have done abominable iniquity; *There is none who does good.*

All: *God looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God.*

Leader: Every one of them has turned aside; They have together become corrupt; *There is none who does good, No, not one.*

All: *Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge, Who eat up my people as they eat bread, And do not call upon God?*

Leader: There they are in great fear *Where no fear was*, For God has scattered the bones of him who encamps against you; You have put *them* to shame, Because God has despised them.

All: *Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther 8:1-17

On that day King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he *was related* to her. ²So the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai; and Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman. ³Now Esther spoke again to the king, fell down at his feet, and implored him with tears to counteract the evil of Haman the Agagite, and the scheme which he had devised against the Jews. ⁴And the king held out the golden scepter toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood before the king, ⁵and said, "If it pleases the king, and if I have found favor in his sight and the thing *seems* right to the king and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to annihilate the Jews who *are* in all the king's provinces. ⁶"For how can I endure to see the evil that will come to my people? Or how can I endure to see the destruction of my countrymen?" ⁷Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew, "Indeed, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he *tried* to lay his hand on the Jews. ⁸"You yourselves write a *decree* concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal *it* with the king's signet ring; for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke." ⁹So the king's scribes were called at that time, in the third month, which *is* the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third *day*; and it was written, according to all that Mordecai commanded, to the Jews, the satraps, the governors, and the princes of the provinces from India to Ethiopia, one hundred and twenty-seven provinces *in all*, to every province in its own script, to every people in their own language, and to the Jews in their own script and language. ¹⁰And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus, sealed *it* with the king's signet ring, and sent letters by couriers on horseback, riding on royal horses bred from swift steeds. ¹¹By these letters the king permitted the Jews who *were* in every city to gather together and protect their lives -- to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the forces of any people or province that would assault them, *both* little children

and women, and to plunder their possessions, ¹²on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth *day* of the twelfth month, which *is* the month of Adar. ¹³A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province and published for all people, so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. ¹⁴The couriers who rode on royal horses went out, hastened and pressed on by the king's command. And the decree was issued in Shushan the citadel. ¹⁵So Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad. ¹⁶The Jews had light and gladness, joy and honor. ¹⁷And in every province and city, wherever the king's command and decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday. Then many of the people of the land became Jews, because fear of the Jews fell upon them.

GOSPEL READING

John 18:25-40

"Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also *one* of His disciples, are you?" He denied *it* and said, "I am not!" ² One of the servants of the high priest, a relative *of him* whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" ²⁷Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed. ²⁸Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. ²⁹Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" ³⁰They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." ³¹Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," ³²that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die. ³³Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" ³⁵Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." ³⁸Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. ³⁹"But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

*Psalm of Preparation**

TUNE: HINTZE 7.7.7.7.7.D.

"Psalm 2"

Based on the Book of Psalms, 1871 and The Psalter, 1912.

Why do heathen nations rage?
Why do peoples folly mind?
Kings of earth in plots engage,
Rulers are in league combined;
Then against Jehovah high,
And against Messiah's sway,
"Let us break their bands," they cry,
"Let us cast their cords away."

But the Lord will scorn them all;
He will laugh Who sits on high,
Then His wrath will on them fall;
Sore displeased He will reply:
"Yet according to My will
I have set My King to reign,
And on Zion's holy hill
My Anointed I'll maintain."

His decree I will make known:
Unto Me the LORD did say,
"Thou art My be-lov-ed Son;
I've begotten Thee this day.
Ask of Me, and Thee I'll make
Heir to earth and nations all;
Them with iron Thou shalt break,
Dashing them in pieces small."

Therefore, kings, be wise, give ear;
Hearken, judges of the earth;
Serve the LORD with godly fear;
Mingle trembling with your mirth.
Kiss the Son, His wrath to turn,
Lest ye perish in the way,
For His anger soon will burn.
Blessed are all that on Him stay

SERMON

Acts 9:20-31

"Saul the Preacher"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 20 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.
- 21 Then all who heard were amazed, and said, "Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?"
- 22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.
- 23 Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him.
- 24 But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him.
- 25 Then the disciples took him by night and let *him* down through the wall in a large basket.
- 26 And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple.
- 27 But Barnabas took him and brought *him* to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.
- 28 So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out.
- 29 And he spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and disputed against the Hellenists, but they attempted to kill him.
- 30 When the brethren found out, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him out to Tarsus.
- 31 Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

Hymn of Response*

2011 Sovereign Grace Worship

"Behold Our God"

Words and Music: Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Barid, and Stephen Altrogge

Verse 1

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne
Come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare
Come let us adore Him

Verse 2

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Verse 3

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

BENEDICTION*

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Kawachi Family
- Pray for our country's leaders and those who serve us.
- Pray for our elders and deacons.
- Pray for our covenant children.
- Pray for the purchase of a new church property

Announcements

- Youth Group for Grades 6-12: Sunday, November 8 from 6-7:30 p.m. Please Invite your friends!
- Youth Group Reformation Party: Saturday October 31 from 6-9 p.m. at Church. We will be playing games and having pizza.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, November 7, at 8 am. Please read Lesson 8 in the "Let's Study Romans" book.
- Sunday School: We have classes for pre-k through adults. The Adults will be studying the creeds and confessions of the church.
- Ascension Presbytery Women's Conference: "Gospel Transformation: In the Hands of the Potter." Saturday, October 24 at Hillcrest PCA in Volant from 9am to 3pm. There is a QR code to sign-up for the event on the back bulletin board.
- Fellowship Time: Today following the morning worship service. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- Reformation Day Evening Service: Sunday, November 1 at 6 p.m. at Faith Reformed Church on Saltsman Road. Pastor Matthew Everhard will be preaching. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- Annual Congregational Meeting: We will be having our annual congregational meeting after the morning worship service on Sunday, November 1.

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.**
 - We believe in the inspired and inerrant Word of God.
 - We believe in the absolute sovereignty of God.
 - We hold to a covenantal framework of Scripture.
 - 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).

New Here?



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