WEST ERIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

"There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius..."

-Acts 10:1a

Worship Leaders:
Pastor Marc Miller, RE Matt Fair

The Lord's Worship Service
Sunday, November 8, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 97:1-2

Leader: The LORD reigns; Let the earth rejoice; Let the multitude of isles be glad!

All: ***Clouds and darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.***

*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*

*Psalm of Praise** *"Psalm 145:1-10"*

TUNE: DUKE STREET LM "Jesus, Shall Reing"

I will Thee praise, my God, O King,
And I will ever bless Thy name;
I will extol Thee every day
And evermore Thy praise proclaim.

The LORD is great; He praise exceeds;
His greatness fully search can none;
Race shall to race extol Thy deeds
And tell Thy mighty acts each one.

Upon Thy glo-rious majesty
And wondrous works my mind shall dwell;
Men shall recount Thy dreadful acts,
And of Thy greatness I will tell.

They utter shall abundantly
The mem'ry of Thy goodness great,
And shall sing praises cheerfully
While they Thy righteousness relate.

Jehovah very gracious is;
In Him compassions also flow;
In lovingkindness He is great,
And unto anger He is slow.

O'er all His works His mercies are;
The LORD is good to all that live.
Praise, LORD, to Thee Thy works afford;
Thy saints to Thee shall praises give.

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: ***Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature: Prone to evil; slothful in good. From that nature has come a multitude of shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned; in wandering from Your ways; in wasting Your gifts; in forgetting Your love. But You, O Lord, have pity upon us because we are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son. And, O most holy and loving Father, help us to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.***

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 6:23

Leader: Hear the good news! "For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

"Psalm 42:1-5" "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

As in its thirst a fainting heart
To water brooks doth flee,
So pants my longing soul, O God,
That I may come to Thee.

My soul for God, the living God,
Is thirsting; shall I near
Before the face of God approach
And in His sight appear?

My tears have unto me been food
Both in the night and day,
While unto me continu'lly,
"Where is your God?" they say.

Poured out within me is my soul
When this I think upon:
How often with the eager throng
I rev'rently had gone,

How to the house of God I went
With voice of joy and praise,
Yea, with the multitude that kept
The solemn holy days.

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

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 146:1-10

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

All: ***While I live I will praise the LORD; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.***

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes, *Nor* in a son of man, in whom *there is* no help.

All: ***His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish.***

Leader: Happy *is he* who *has* the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope *is* in the LORD his God,

All: ***Who made heaven and earth, The sea, and all that is in them; Who keeps truth forever,***

Leader: Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners.

All: ***The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous.***

Leader: The LORD watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow; But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.

All: ***The LORD shall reign forever -- Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!***

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther 9:18-10:3

But the Jews who *were* at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth *day,* as well as on the fourteenth; and on the fifteenth of *the month* they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. 19Therefore the Jews of the villages who dwelt in the unwalled towns celebrated the fourteenth day of the month of Adar *with* gladness and feasting, as a holiday, and for sending presents to one another. 20And Mordecai wrote these things and sent letters to all the Jews, near and far, who *were* in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, 21to establish among them that they should celebrate yearly the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar, 22as the days on which the Jews had rest from their enemies, as the month which was turned from sorrow to joy for them, and from mourning to a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and joy, of sending presents to one another and gifts to the poor. 23So the Jews accepted the custom which they had begun, as Mordecai had written to them, 24because Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to annihilate them, and had cast Pur (that *is,* the lot), to consume them and destroy them; 25but when *Esther* came before the king, he commanded by letter that this wicked plot which *Haman* had devised

against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. 26So they called these days Purim, after the name Pur. Therefore, because of all the words of this letter, what they had seen concerning this matter, and what had happened to them, 27the Jews established and imposed it upon themselves and their descendants and all who would join them, that without fail they should celebrate these two days every year, according to the written *instructions* and according to the *prescribed* time, 28*that* these days *should be* remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city, that these days of Purim should not fail *to be observed* among the Jews, and *that* the memory of them should not perish among their descendants. 29Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, with Mordecai the Jew, wrote with full authority to confirm this second letter about Purim. 30And *Mordecai* sent letters to all the Jews, to the one hundred and twenty-seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, *with* words of peace and truth, 31to confirm these days of Purim at their *appointed* time, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther had prescribed for them, and as they had decreed for themselves and their descendants concerning matters of their fasting and lamenting. 32So the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim, and it was written in the book. And King Ahasuerus imposed tribute on the land and *on* the islands of the sea. 2Now all the acts of his power and his might, and the account of the greatness of Mordecai, to which the king advanced him, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? 3For Mordecai the Jew *was* second to King Ahasuerus, and was great among the Jews and well received by the multitude of his brethren, seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all his countrymen.

GOSPEL READING

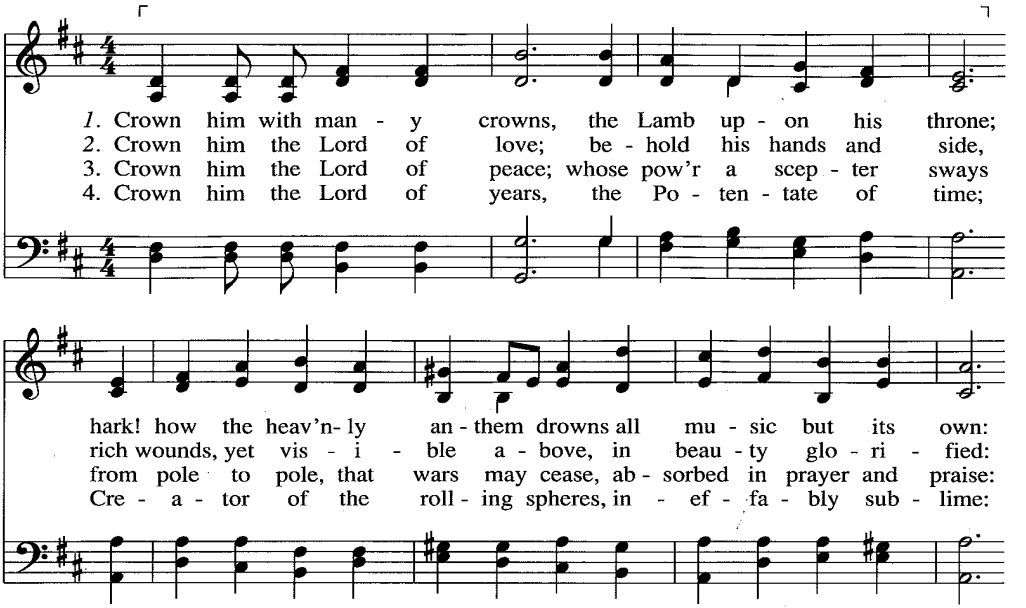
Romans 19:17-42

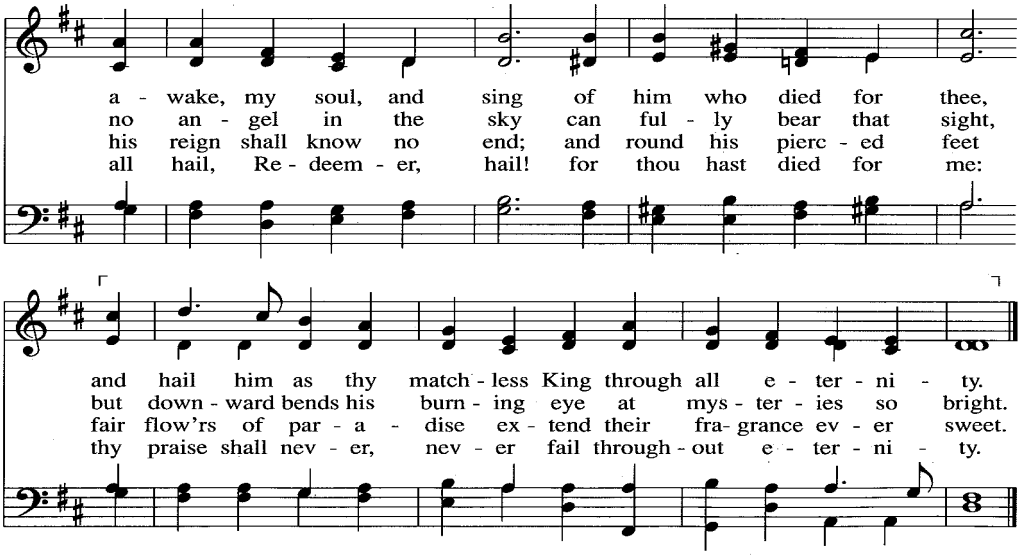
And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place* of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, 18where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. 19Now Pilate wrote a title and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 20Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, *and* Latin. 21Therefore the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews." ' " 22Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written." 23Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. 24They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots." Therefore the soldiers did these things. 25Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" 27Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own *home*. 28After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" 29Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth. 30So when Jesus had

received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.
31Therefore, because it was the Preparation *Day,* that the bodies should not remain on the cross
on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be
broken, and *that* they might be taken away. 32Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the
first and of the other who was crucified with Him. 33But when they came to Jesus and saw that
He was already dead, they did not break His legs. 34But one of the soldiers pierced His side
with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. 35And he who has seen has testified,
and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.
36For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not *one* of His bones shall
be broken." 37And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."
38After 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. 39And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also
came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40Then 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. 41Now 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. 42So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews'
Preparation *Day,* for the tomb was nearby.

*Hymn of Preparation** — *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

TUNE: DIADEMATA S.M.D. — Matthew Bridges, 1851





SERMON

Acts 10:1-23 ***"The Gospel to the Gentiles"*** ***Pastor Marc Miller***

1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what
was called the Italian Regiment,
2 a devout *man* and one who feared God with all his household, who gave
alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.
3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God
coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"
4 And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?" So he
said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial
before God.
5 "Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter.
6 "He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell
you what you must do."
7 And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two
of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who
waited on him continually.
8 So when he had explained all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa.
9 The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter
went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour.
10 Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready,
he fell into a trance
11 and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four
corners, descending to him and let down to the earth.

12 In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping
things, and birds of the air.
13 And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat."
14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or
unclean."
15 And a voice *spoke* to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you
must not call common."
16 This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.
17 Now while Peter wondered within himself what this vision which he had
seen meant, behold, the men who had been sent from Cornelius had made
inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate.
18 And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was
lodging there.
19 While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three
men are seeking you.
20 "Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have
sent them."
21 Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius,
and said, "Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?"
22 And they said, "Cornelius *the* centurion, a just man, one who fears God and
has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely
instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words
from you."
23 Then he invited them in and lodged *them.* On the next day Peter went away
with them, and some brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

Sermon Notes:
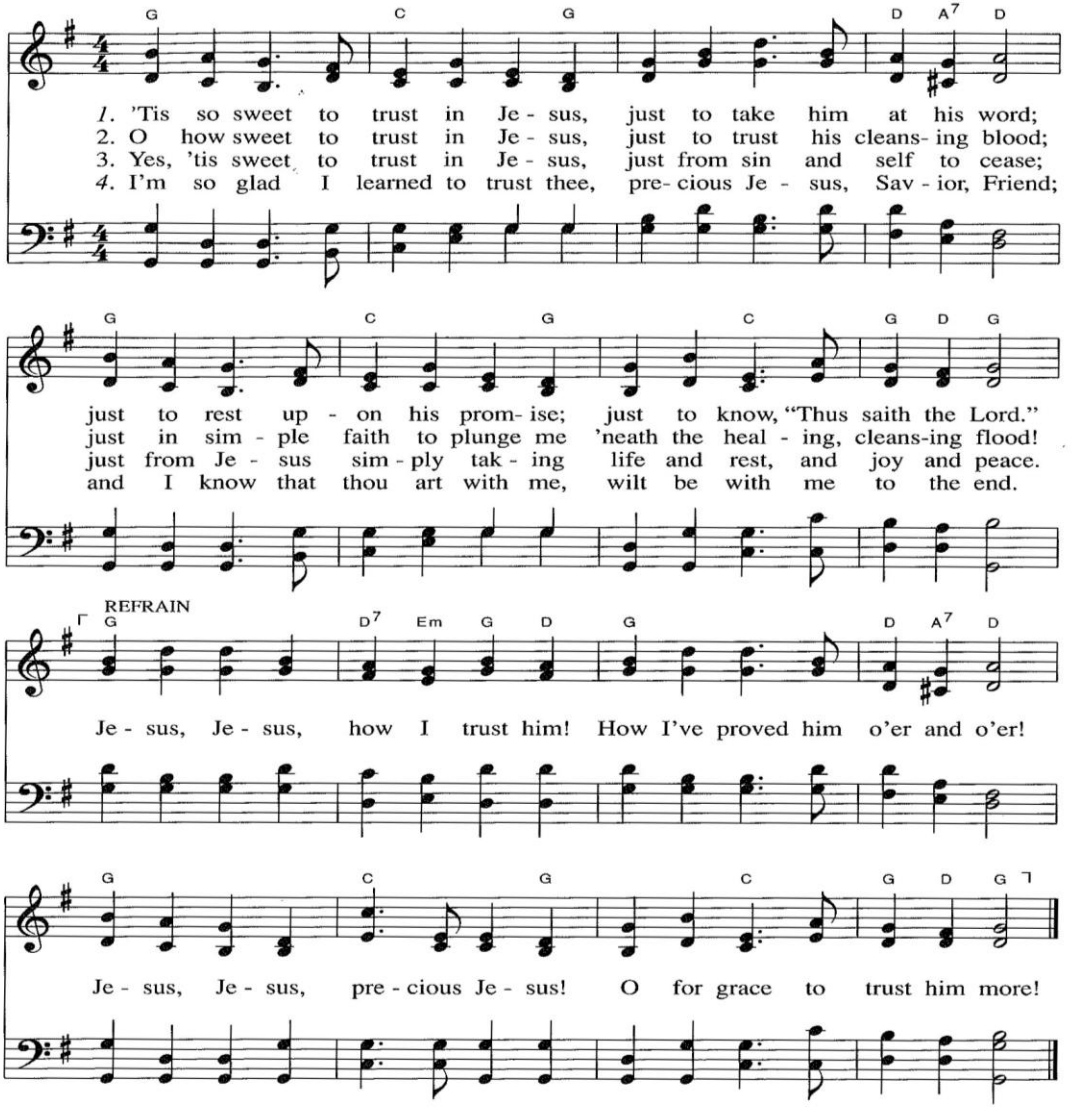
- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

Hymn of Response* ***"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"***

TUNE: TRUST IN JESUS 8.7.8.7.ref. Louisa M. R. Stead, 1882



BENEDICTION*

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Nachtergaele 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: Tonight from 6-7:30 p.m.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, December 5, at 8 am. Please read Lesson 9 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. **Please note we will not have Sunday School on November 29**.
- Fellowship Time: Sunday, November 15 after the morning worship service. All are welcome to attend!

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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