

**WEST ERIE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*Then he said, "Are you really my son  
Esau?" He said, "I am.""*

*– Genesis 27:24*

WORSHIP LEADERS:

*PASTOR MARC MILLER, JONATHAN MOSER, R.E.*

THE LORD'S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 84:1-2*

Leader: How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts!

All: *My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*

## *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: VENI EMMANUEL L.M. ref

## *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

Latin antiphons, 12<sup>th</sup> cent.

The musical score is written for a single voice and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system has a fermata over the first measure of the melody. The second system has a fermata over the last measure of the melody. The lyrics are printed below the melody line.

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on  
3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's  
4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy  
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,  
Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law  
• tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,  
draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,

REFRAIN

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
• and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
and close the path to mis - er - y.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

### 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: O God, whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for Your presence and humbly seeks Your love, we come to You to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved You with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, or for the good we have left undone. Because You, O Lord, are full of compassion, gracious, slow to anger, and plentiful in mercy, there is forgiveness with You. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us the word that we need, and let Your word abide with us until it has wrought in us Your holy will. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PSALM 103:8, 11-12*

Leader: Hear the good news! "The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; <sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us."

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

### ***Psalm 11***

TUNE: TERRA BEATA SMD

"This is My Father's World"

My trust is in the LORD; How can you say to me,  
"Now like a bird from peril haste And to your mountain flee!  
The wicked bend the bow With arrow fixed for flight,  
And stealthily in darkness go The true in heart to smite.  
"Foundations are destroyed! What can the righteous try?"  
The LORD is in His holy place; The LORD'S throne is on high.  
His eyes will surely see, His eyelids try men's sons.  
The LORD tries just and wicked men; His soul hates cruel ones.  
Upon all wicked men He'll rain entangling snares.  
Brimstone and fire and burning wind He for their cup prepares.  
For righteous is the LORD, And He loves righteousness;  
And every one who upright is Will see His gracious face.

## 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 25:1-11*

Leader: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**All:** *O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.*

Leader: Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

**All:** *Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.*

Leader: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You *are* the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

**All:** *Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they are from of old.*

Leader: Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

**All:** *Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.*

Leader: The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.

**All:** *All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.*

Leader: For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

## GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 1:1-25*

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup>Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup>Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. <sup>4</sup>Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. <sup>5</sup>Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, <sup>6</sup>and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. <sup>7</sup>Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. <sup>8</sup>Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. <sup>9</sup>Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. <sup>10</sup>Hezekiah

begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. <sup>11</sup>Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. <sup>12</sup>And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. <sup>13</sup>Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. <sup>14</sup>Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. <sup>15</sup>Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. <sup>16</sup>And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. <sup>17</sup>So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. <sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. <sup>20</sup>But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>" And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." <sup>24</sup>Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, <sup>25</sup>and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Acts 10:1-23*

There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, <sup>2a</sup> a devout *man* and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. <sup>3</sup>About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!" <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>"Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. <sup>6</sup>"He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do." <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>So when he had explained all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup> And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." <sup>14</sup>But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." <sup>15</sup>And a voice *spoke* to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." <sup>16</sup>This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there. <sup>19</sup>While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. <sup>20</sup>" Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." <sup>21</sup>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?" <sup>22</sup>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." <sup>23</sup>Then he invited them in and lodged *them*. On the next day Peter went away with them, and some brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

### ***Psalm of Preparation\****

TUNE: EVENTIDE 10.10.10.10.

### ***"Psalm 39:1-6"***

*"Abide With Me"*

"I will take heed and guard my ways," I said, "So that my tongue no sinful word shall stain;  
As with a bridle I will keep my mouth, While in my presence wicked men remain."

In silence dumb I ceased from speaking good; My heart within was hot, my sorrow stirred;  
And while I mused the fire began to burn; Then spake I with my tongue this earnest word:

"My end, O LORD, and measure of my days Make me to know, and thus my frailty see.  
Lo, Thou hast made my days an handbreadth long; My lifetime is a nothing unto Thee.

"Each man at best is altogether vain. Each man doth surely walk in empty show;  
They heap up wealth and vex themselves for naught, Nor know to whom their garnered riches go.

## **SERMON**

### ***Genesis 26:34-27:29***

### ***"Too Close for Comfort"***

***Pastor Marc Miller***

<sup>34</sup> When Esau was forty years old, he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beerli the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.

<sup>35</sup> And they were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah.

<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass, when Isaac was old and his eyes were so dim that he could not see, that he called Esau his older son and said to him, "My son." And he answered him, "Here I am."

<sup>2</sup> Then he said, "Behold now, I am old. I do not know the day of my death.

<sup>3</sup> "Now therefore, please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me.

<sup>4</sup> "And make me savory food, such as I love, and bring *it* to me that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die."

<sup>5</sup> Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt game and to bring *it*.

6 So Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, "Indeed I heard your father  
speak to Esau your brother, saying,  
7 'Bring me game and make savory food for me, that I may eat it and bless you  
in the presence of the LORD before my death.'  
8 "Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to what I command you.  
9 "Go now to the flock and bring me from there two choice kids of the goats,  
10 and I will make savory food from them for your father, such as he loves.  
"Then you shall take *it* to your father, that he may eat *it*, and that he may  
bless you before his death."  
11 And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "Look, Esau my brother *is* a hairy  
man, and I *am* a smooth-skinned man.  
12 "Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be a deceiver to him;  
and I shall bring a curse on myself and not a blessing."  
13 But his mother said to him, "Let your curse *be* on me, my son; only obey my  
voice, and go, get *them* for me."  
14 And he went and got *them* and brought *them* to his mother, and his mother  
made savory food, such as his father loved.  
15 Then Rebekah took the choice clothes of her elder son Esau, which *were* with  
her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son.  
16 And she put the skins of the kids of the goats on his hands and on the  
smooth part of his neck.  
17 Then she gave the savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into  
the hand of her son Jacob.  
18 So he went to his father and said, "My father.' And he said, "Here I am. Who  
*are* you, my son?"  
19 Jacob said to his father, "I *am* Esau your firstborn; I have done just as you  
told me; please arise, sit and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me."  
20 But Isaac said to his son, "How *is it* that you have found *it* so quickly, my  
son?" And he said, "Because the LORD your God brought *it* to me."  
21 Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come near, that I may feel you, my son,  
whether you *are* really my son Esau or not."  
22 So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, "The voice *is*  
Jacob's voice, but the hands *are* the hands of Esau."  
23 And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother  
Esau's hands; so he blessed him.  
24 Then he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He said, "I *am*."  
25 He said, "Bring *it* near to me, and I will eat of my son's game, so that my  
soul may bless you." So he brought *it* near to him, and he ate; and he  
brought him wine, and he drank.  
26 Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come near now and kiss me, my son."  
27 And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing,  
and blessed him and said: "Surely, the smell of my son *is* like the smell of a  
field Which the LORD has blessed.  
28 Therefore may God give you Of the dew of heaven, Of the fatness of the  
earth, And plenty of grain and wine.

<sup>29</sup> Let peoples serve you, And nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren, And let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed *be* everyone who curses you, And blessed *be* those who bless you!"

### Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

### *Hymn of Response\**

TUNE: AMAZING GRACE C.M.

### *"Amazing Grace"*

St. 1-5, John Newton, 1779. St. 6, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790.

1. A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that saved a wretch like me!  
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re - lieved;  
 3. Thro' man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;  
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his Word my hope se - cures;

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
 how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 he will my shield and por - tion be, as long as life en - dures.

5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
 and mortal life shall cease,  
 I shall possess within the veil  
 a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
 bright shining as the sun,  
 we've no less days to sing God's praise  
 than when we've first begun.

### BENEDICTION\*

\* --Please stand if able  
 CCLI # 174248

### Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Spencer and Carmen Family
- Pray for our country's leaders
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our Elders and Deacons.
- Pray our Sunday School Teachers and Students
- Please pray for the for a church plant ongoing in Cranberry Township, PA.

## Announcements

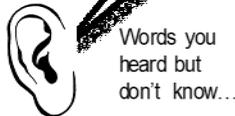
- Prayer meeting: Wednesday Evenings at 8:30 p.m. over Zoom. All are encouraged to attend. Please see Pastor Miller if you would like to attend and are not already on the email list.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, January 7, at 8 a.m. – In person & ZOOM, "Let's Study Philippians" Wrap Up.
- Sunday School Starts at 10 a.m. We have a class for Pre-K to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and an adult class. The Adults are studying the Westminster Shorter Catechism. Sunday School will resume next week. **Please note there will be no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1.**
- Our Christmas Eve Service of Scriptures and Carols will be on Saturday Dec 24, at 6:30 p.m.

### Sermon Notes FOR KIDS



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.

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



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?

How does today's message apply to your life?

The most important thing you learned was:



Favorite song today was:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 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 Apos 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)).

Phone: (814) 504-6513

Address: 621 West 2nd Street Erie PA, 16507

E-mail: [westeriepca@gmail.com](mailto:westeriepca@gmail.com)

[www.wepca.org](http://www.wepca.org)

Download our App on all the major carriers