



**WEST ERIE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

"COMFORT, YES, COMFORT MY PEOPLE!"  
SAYS YOUR GOD."

-ISAIAH 40:1

WORSHIP LEADERS:  
PASTOR DAVID HILLS, RE TIM WHITBECK

THE LORD'S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 105:1-2*

Leader: Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!

*All: Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works!*

## *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\**

TUNR: LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8.

## *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

Based on Psalm 103. Joachin Neander, 1680.

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly  
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -  
4. Praise to the Lord, who with mar - vel - ous wis - dom hath  
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
fend thee! Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here  
made thee, decked thee with health, and with lov - ing hand  
dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
 gent - ly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
 • dai - ly at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -  
 guid - ed and stayed thee. How oft in grief hath not he  
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near, join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion.  
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
 • might - y will do, if with his love he be - friend thee.  
 brought thee re - lief, spread - ing his wings to o'er - shade thee!  
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - e'er we a - dore him.

### CONFESSION OF FAITH\*

*Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 93-94*

Leader: What is the moral law?

*All: The moral law is the declaration of the will of God to mankind, directing and binding every one to personal, perfect, and perpetual conformity and obedience thereunto, in the frame and disposition of the whole man, soul and body, and in performance of all those duties of holiness and righteousness which he oweth to God and man: promising life upon the fulfilling, and threatening death upon the breach of it.*

Leader: Is there any use of the moral law to man since the fall?

*All: Although no man, since the fall, can attain to righteousness and life by the moral law; yet there is great use thereof, as well common to all men, as peculiar either to the unregenerate, or the regenerate.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*All: Most merciful God, we sadly admit that we have transgressed Your law in many ways. Particularly, we have been people of little faith; worrying about what we shall eat, what we shall wear, what we shall do with tomorrow's problems. We have not sought Your kingdom and righteousness as You have commanded. O Lord, forgive Your people! O Lord, deliver us from evil worry! O Lord, lead us to see You as our portion and our inheritance. O Lord, increase our faith, that we may rest in Your care and providence and thereby show to the world that You are our Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ. Here now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Psalm 103:8-11*

Leader: Hear the good news! “The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. <sup>9</sup>He will not always strive *with us*, Nor will He keep *His anger* forever. <sup>10</sup>He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.”

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

### **“Psalm 23”**

“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”

“The LORD’S my Shepherd, I’ll not want; He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again; And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness, Ev’n for His own name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.

A table Thou has furnished me In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me;  
And in GOD’S house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

## 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 68:1-11*

Leader: Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

*All: As smoke is driven away, So drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked perish at the presence of God.*

Leader: But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.

**All:** *Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him.*

Leader: A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, *Is* God in His holy habitation.

**All:** *God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.*

Leader: O God, when You went out before Your people, When You marched through the wilderness, Selah

**All:** *The earth shook; The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God; Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.*

Leader: You, O God, sent a plentiful rain, Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance, When it was weary.

**All:** *Your congregation dwelt in it; You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor.*

Leader: The Lord gave the word; Great *was* the company of those who proclaimed it:

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ezra 10:1-17*

Now while Ezra was praying, and while he was confessing, weeping, and bowing down before the house of God, a very large assembly of men, women, and children gathered to him from Israel; for the people wept very bitterly. <sup>2</sup>And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, *one* of the sons of Elam, spoke up and said to Ezra, "We have trespassed against our God, and have taken pagan wives from the peoples of the land; yet now there is hope in Israel in spite of this. <sup>3</sup>Now therefore, let us make a covenant with our God to put away all these wives and those who have been born to them, according to the advice of my master and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law. <sup>4</sup>"Arise, for *this* matter is your *responsibility*. We also *are* with you. Be of good courage, and do *it*." <sup>5</sup>Then Ezra arose, and made the leaders of the priests, the Levites, and all Israel swear an oath that they would do according to this word. So they swore an oath. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib; and *when* he came there, he ate no bread and drank no water, for he mourned because of the guilt of those from the captivity. <sup>7</sup>And they issued a proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the descendants of the captivity, that they must gather at Jerusalem, <sup>8</sup>and that whoever would not come within three days, according to the instructions of the leaders and elders, all his property would be confiscated, and he himself would be separated from the assembly of those from the captivity. <sup>9</sup>So all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered at Jerusalem within three days. It *was* the ninth month, on the twentieth of the month; and all the people sat in the open square of the house of God, trembling because of *this* matter and because of heavy rain. <sup>10</sup>Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, "You have transgressed and have taken pagan wives, adding to the guilt of Israel. <sup>11</sup>"Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your

fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives." <sup>12</sup>Then all the assembly answered and said with a loud voice, "Yes! As you have said, so we must do. <sup>13</sup>But *there are* many people; *it is* the season for heavy rain, and we are not able to stand outside. Nor *is this* the work of one or two days, for *there are* many of us who have transgressed in this matter. <sup>14</sup>Please, let the leaders of our entire assembly stand; and let all those in our cities who have taken pagan wives come at appointed times, together with the elders and judges of their cities, until the fierce wrath of our God is turned away from us in this matter." <sup>15</sup>Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahaziah the son of Tikvah opposed this, and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite gave them support. <sup>16</sup>Then the descendants of the captivity did so. And Ezra the priest, *with* certain heads of the fathers' *households*, were set apart by the fathers' *households*, each of them by name; and they sat down on the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter. <sup>17</sup>By the first day of the first month they finished *questioning* all the men who had taken pagan wives.

### GOSPEL READING

*John 6:41-59*

"The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup>And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven?'" <sup>43</sup>Jesus therefore answered and said to them, "Do not murmur among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." <sup>52</sup>The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this *Man* give us *His* flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup>For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. <sup>56</sup>He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup>As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread which came down from heaven -- not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever." <sup>59</sup>These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

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

TUNE: TRENTHAM SM

### ***"Psalm 25:8-15"***

*"Breath on Me, Breath of God"*

The LORD is good and just;  
The way He'll sinners show;  
The meek in judgment He will guide  
And make His path to know.

All pathways of the Lord  
Are truth and mercy sure,  
To such as keep His covenant  
And testimonies pure.

Now for Thine own name's sake,  
O LORD, I Thee entreat  
To pardon my iniquity,  
For it is very great.

Who fears the LORD is taught  
The way to understand;  
His soul shall ever dwell at ease,  
His seed possess the land.

The secret of the LORD  
Shall all who fear Him know;  
The knowledge of His covenant  
He unto them will show.

My eyes upon the LORD  
Continually are set;  
For He it is that shall bring forth  
My feet out of the net.

### SERMON

*Isaiah 40:1-5*

*"The Promise of Comfort"*

*Pastor David Hills*

- 1 "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.
- 2 "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended,  
That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD's hand  
Double for all her sins."
- 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD;  
Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.
- 4 Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The  
crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth;
- 5 The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see *it* together;  
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

## Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

# Hymn of Response\*

TUNE: NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.

# "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Robert Robinson, 1758.

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

457

Samuel ... named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:  
Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

**BENEDICTION\***

## **Prayer requests**

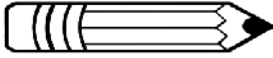
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Spencer and Carmen Family
- Pray for our country's leaders and those who serve us.
- Pray for our elders and deacons.
- Pray for our covenant children.

## **Announcements**

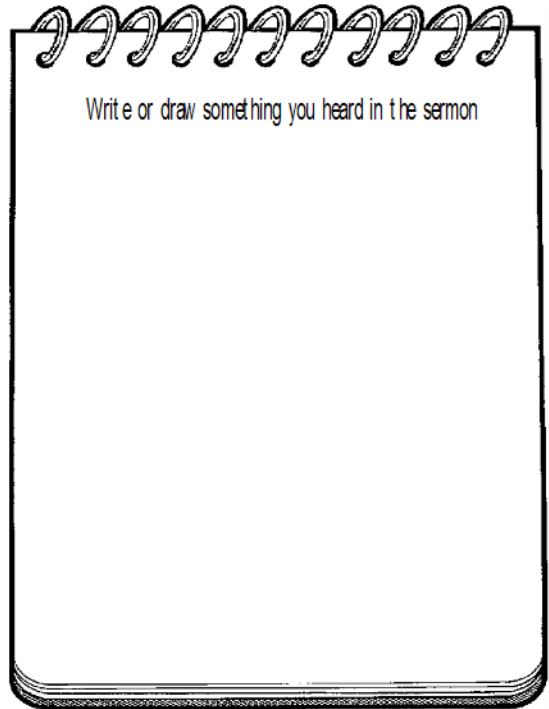
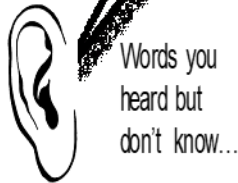
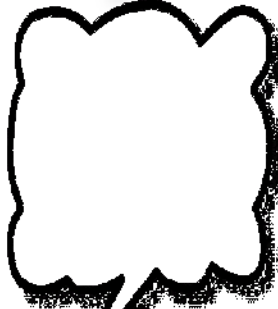
- Prayer meeting: Wednesdays, at 8:30 p.m. over zoom. If you have any questions or want to join us, please see Pastor Miller.
- Youth Group for Grades 6-12: Sunday, May 3 from 6-7:30.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, May 2 at 8 a.m. Please read chapter 4 in the Romans study book.
- Sunday School: Sunday at 10 am. We have classes for ages 4 to adults. Please talk to Pastor Miller if you have any questions.
- After Church Fellowship: Sunday, May 10 after the morning worship service. Refreshments will be provided. We encourage all to attend!
- Spring Cleanup and mulch: Saturday, May 9 starting at 9 am.

# Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

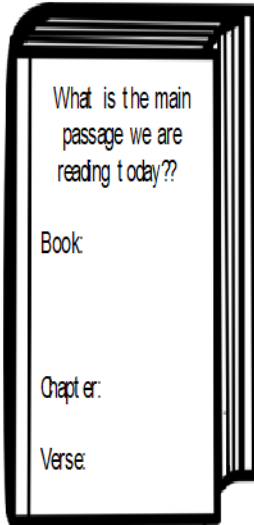
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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.



Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

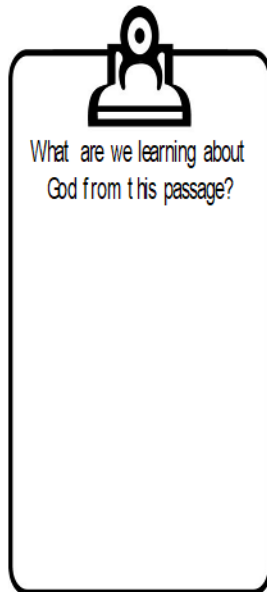


What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book:

Chapter:

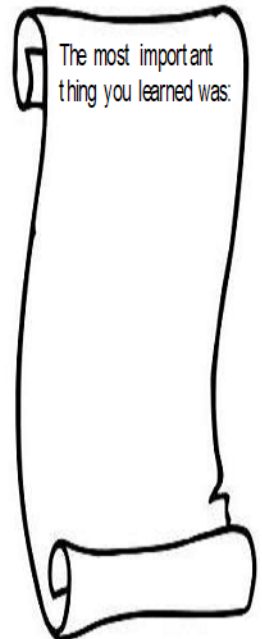
Verse:



What are we learning about God from this passage?



Questions?



The most important thing you learned was:



How does today's message apply to your life?



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 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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