



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“FOR MY DAYS ARE CONSUMED LIKE
SMOKE, AND MY BONES ARE BURNED LIKE A
HEARTH.”

-PSALM 102:3

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, RE TIM WHITBECK

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 118:1

Leader: "Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His mercy *endures forever.*"

*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: DIADEMATA S.M.D.

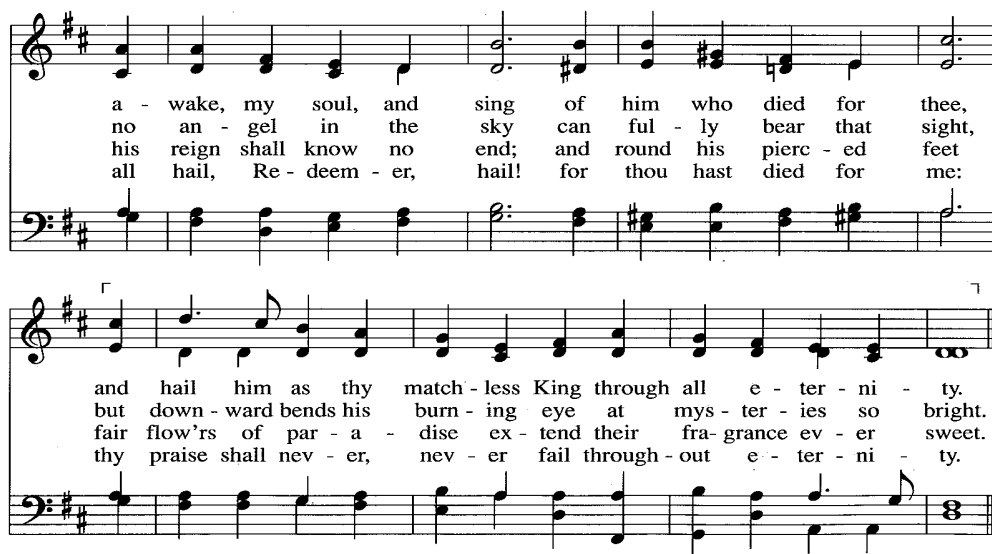
"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Matthew Bridges, 1851

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system continues the melody and includes additional lyrics. The notation includes treble and bass staves with notes, rests, and bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding vocal parts.

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
3. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways
4. Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time;

hark! how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own:
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:
Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime:



a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
his reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
all hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me:

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
fair flow'rs of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

CONFESSION OF FAITH*

Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 115

Leader: Which is the fourth commandment?

All: The fourth commandment is, Remember the sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thy labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath-day, and hallowed it.

CONFESSION OF SIN

All: O Holy Father, we know Your will is the way of love, for You so loved the world that You sent Your only begotten Son. We are created and redeemed to love You and all men. Your law is the law of love. Sadly, we have been satisfied with lesser love and narrower affections than we ought. Often, we have ignored You. Often, we have loved only our friends when our enemies need us. Forgive us for not greeting one another in love, for withholding the kind deed, for letting loose the word of anger, for harboring resentment, and for plotting revenge. Forgive us, and make us ready to forgive, through Jesus our Savior. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 55:6-7

Leader: Hear the good news! "Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. ⁷Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

"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

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 61:1-8

Leader: HEAR my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer.

All: *From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*

Leader: For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy.

All: *I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. Selah*

Leader: For You, O God, have heard my vows; You have given *me* the heritage of those who fear Your name.

All: *You will prolong the king's life, His years as many generations.*

Leader: He shall abide before God forever. Oh, prepare mercy and truth, *which* may preserve him!

All: *So I will sing praise to Your name forever, That I may daily perform my vows.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 13:1-31

On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people, and in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever come into the assembly of God, ²because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing. ³So it was, when they had heard the Law, that they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel. ⁴Now before this, Eliashib the priest, having authority over the storerooms of the house of our God, *was* allied with Tobiah. ⁵And he had prepared for him a large room, where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded *to be given* to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests. ⁶But during all this I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Then after certain days I obtained leave from the king, ⁷and I came to Jerusalem and discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, in preparing a room for him in the courts of the house of God. ⁸And it grieved me bitterly; therefore I threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room. ⁹Then I commanded them to cleanse the rooms; and I brought back into them the articles of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense. ¹⁰I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given *them*; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. ¹¹So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place. ¹²Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse. ¹³And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouse Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah; and next to them *was* Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were considered faithful, and their task *was* to distribute to their brethren. ¹⁴Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its services! ¹⁵In those days I saw *people* in Judah treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all *kinds* of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned *them* about the day on which they were selling provisions. ¹⁶Men of Tyre dwelt there also, who brought in fish

and all kinds of goods, and sold *them* on the Sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. ¹⁷Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, "What evil thing *is* this that you do, by which you profane the Sabbath day? ¹⁸"Did not your fathers do thus, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? Yet you bring added wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath." ¹⁹So it was, at the gates of Jerusalem, as it began to be dark before the Sabbath, that I commanded the gates to be shut, and charged that they must not be opened till after the Sabbath. Then I posted *some* of my servants at the gates, *so that* no burdens would be brought in on the Sabbath day. ²⁰Now the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice. ²¹Then I warned them, and said to them, "Why do you spend the night around the wall? If you do *so* again, I will lay hands on you!" From that time on they came no *more* on the Sabbath. ²²And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should go and guard the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, *concerning* this also, and spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy! ²³In those days I also saw Jews *who* had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, *and* Moab. ²⁴And half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and could not speak the language of Judah, but spoke according to the language of one or the other people. ²⁵So I contended with them and cursed them, struck some of them and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, *saying*, "You shall not give your daughters as wives to their sons, nor take their daughters for your sons or yourselves. ²⁶"Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him, who was beloved of his God; and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless pagan women caused even him to sin. ²⁷Should we then hear of your doing all this great evil, transgressing against our God by marrying pagan women?" ²⁸And *one* of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, *was* a son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite; therefore I drove him from me. ²⁹Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites. ³⁰Thus I cleansed them of everything pagan. I also assigned duties to the priests and the Levites, each to his service, ³¹and *to bringing* the wood offering and the firstfruits at appointed times. Remember me, O my God, for good!

GOSPEL READING

John 13:18-38

"I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.' ¹⁹"Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am *He*. ²⁰"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." ²¹When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." ²²Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke. ²³Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. ²⁴Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke. ²⁵Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped *it*." And having dipped the bread, He gave *it* to Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon. ²⁷Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." ²⁸But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. ²⁹For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy *those things* we need for the feast," or that

he should give something to the poor. ³⁰Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night. ³¹So, when he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. ³²If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately. ³³"Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you. ³⁴"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." ³⁶Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward." ³⁷Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake." ³⁸Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.

*Psalm of Preparation**

TUNE: PARK STREET LM

"Psalm 102:1-12"

To this my prayer O listen, LORD!
And let my cry for help reach You.
In day of grief hide not Your face.
Your list'ning ear toward me O bend;
The day I call, Your answer send.

For all my days go up in smoke,
And like a hearth my bones are burned.
Like grass my heart is crushed and dried;
I daily food forgotten leave;
My skin and bones together cleave.

With sighs and groans my frame resounds.
I'm like a desert pelican,
Or like an owl in ruined wastes.
I lie awake, as on the roof
A sparrow stands, alone, aloof.

All day my foes their taunts repeat;
Those filled with anger curse my name.
I food with tears and ashes mix,
For You on me in anger frown;
You raised me up to throw me down.

An ev'ning shadow are my days;
Like grass I wither soon away.
But You, Jehovah, sit enthroned
Forever; Your memorial
Abides through generations all.

SERMON

Psalm 102

"A Prayer of the Afflicted"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, And let my cry come to You.
- 2 Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble; Incline Your ear to me; In the day that I call, answer me speedily.
- 3 For my days are consumed like smoke, And my bones are burned like a hearth.
- 4 My heart is stricken and withered like grass, So that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the sound of my groaning My bones cling to my skin.
- 6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness; I am like an owl of the desert.
- 7 I lie awake, And am like a sparrow alone on the housetop.
- 8 My enemies reproach me all day long, Those who deride me swear an oath against me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, And mingled my drink with weeping,
- 10 Because of Your indignation and Your wrath; For You have lifted me up and cast me away.
- 11 My days *are* like a shadow that lengthens, And I wither away like grass.
- 12 But You, O LORD, shall endure forever, And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.
- 13 You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come.
- 14 For Your servants take pleasure in her stones, And show favor to her dust.
- 15 So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, And all the kings of the earth Your glory.
- 16 For the LORD shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory.
- 17 He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, And shall not despise their prayer.
- 18 This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.
- 19 For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary; From heaven the LORD viewed the earth,
- 20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner, To release those appointed to death,
- 21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, And His praise in Jerusalem,
- 22 When the peoples are gathered together, And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.
- 23 He weakened my strength in the way; He shortened my days.
- 24 I said, "O my God, Do not take me away in the midst of my days; Your years *are* throughout all generations.
- 25 Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens *are* the work of Your hands.
- 26 They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed. ²
- 27 But You *are* the same, And Your years will have no end.

²⁸ The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You."

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

Hymn of Response*

TUNE: SLANE 10.10.10.10.

"Be Thou My Vision"

Ancient Irish Poem, ca. 8th cent.

Be Thou My Vision

642

Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. Phil. 3:7

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a corresponding text line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The first system includes a 'Unison' marking and a fermata over the first measure. The second system includes a fermata over the first measure. The third system includes a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are in English and are arranged in five stanzas. The first stanza is the main body of the hymn, and the second and third stanzas are variations. The fourth and fifth stanzas are the concluding lines of the hymn.

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er,
3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
• dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
• thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

BENEDICTION*

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Garrett 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: Please mark your calendars for our fall Kick off and beach night on Saturday, August 29, from 5-8 pm at beach 6 on Presque Isle.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, September 12, at 8 am. Please read Lesson 6 in the "Let's Study Romans" book.
- Sunday School: Resumes on Sunday, September 13. 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.
- Church Picnic: We will be having a picnic on Sunday, August 30 at church starting at 5 p.m. The church will provide the main dish. We ask you to bring a dish or two to pass. There is a sign-up for the picnic in the back of church.
- Fellowship Time: Sunday, September 20 following the morning worship service.
- Women's Care Center Banquet: The church will be sponsoring a table at the Celebrate Life Banquet. It will be on Saturday September 26th starting at 6:15 p.m. at the Ambassador Center on Upper Peach Street. There is a sign-up sheet in the back if you would like 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?



Scan Me

Phone: (814) 504-6513

Address: 621 West 2nd Street Erie PA, 16507

E-mail: Pastor@wepca.org

www.wepca.org

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