



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“HE WILL FEED HIS FLOCK LIKE A
SHEPHERD; HE WILL GATHER THE LAMBS
WITH HIS ARM...”

-ISAIAH 40:1 1A

WORSHIP LEADERS:
PASTOR DAVID HILLS, RE MATT FAIR

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalms 96:1-2

Leader: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

All: Sing to the LORD, bless His name; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

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*

TUNE: ST. THOMAS SM

“Psalm 50:1-6”

“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”

The mighty God the LORD
Has spoken and did call
The earth from rising of the sun
To where it has its fall.

From Zion’s holy hill,
Perfection’s high abode
Of matchless beauty, even thence
In glory shineth God.

Our God shall surely come;
Keep silence shall not He;
Before Him fire shall waste; great storms
Shall round about Him be.

And to the heav'ns above
He sendeth forth His call,
And also to the earth, that He
May judge His people all.

“Together let My saints
Before Me gathered be;
Those that by sacrifice have made
A covenant with Me.”

Then shall the heav'ns declare
His righteousness abroad,
Because He only is the judge;
Yea, none is judge but God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH*

Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 117

Leader: How is the sabbath or the Lord's day to be sanctified?

All: The sabbath or Lord's day is to be sanctified by an holy resting all the day, not only from such works as are at all times sinful, but even from such worldly employments and recreations as are on other days lawful; and making it our delight to spend the whole time (except so much of it as is to be taken up in works of necessity and mercy) in the public and private exercises of God's worship: and, to that end, we are to prepare our hearts, and with such foresight, diligence, and moderation, to dispose and seasonably dispatch our worldly business, that we may be the more free and fit for the duties of that day.

CONFESSION OF SIN

PSALM 25:4-7, 11

All: “Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD. For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great.” 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 14"

"O Word of God Incarnate"

The fool in heart is saying,
"There surely is no God."
Corrupt and vile their deeds are;
Not one of them does good.
The LORD looks down from heaven
On sons of men abroad
To see which one has wisdom,
If any seeks for God.

All far astray have wandered;
They all to vileness run.
Not one of them is righteous,
No, not a single one.
Have they of truth no knowledge,
These evilworkers all,
Who eat like bread my people
And on GOD do not call?

There shall they be in terror
For God is with the just;
You would confound one struggling;
Jehovah is his trust.
Salvation out of Zion
Who will to Isr'el bring?
The LORD brings back His captives.
Joy, Jacob! Isr'el, sing!

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 1:1-6

Leader: Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

All: But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Leader: He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

All: *The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.*

Leader: Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

All: *For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther 2:1-23

After these things, when the wrath of King Ahasuerus subsided, he remembered Vashti, what she had done, and what had been decreed against her. ²Then the king's servants who attended him said: "Let beautiful young virgins be sought for the king; ³"and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather all the beautiful young virgins to Shushan the citadel, into the women's quarters, under the custody of Hegai the king's eunuch, custodian of the women. And let beauty preparations be given *them*. ⁴"Then let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This thing pleased the king, and he did so. ⁵In Shushan the citadel there was a certain Jew whose name *was* Mordecai the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite. ⁶*Kish* had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives who had been captured with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away. ⁷And *Mordecai* had brought up Hadassah, that *is*, Esther, his uncle's daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman *was* lovely and beautiful. When her father and mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter. ⁸So it was, when the king's command and decree were heard, and when many young women were gathered at Shushan the citadel, *under* the custody of Hegai, that Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women. ⁹Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance. Then seven choice maidservants were provided for her from the king's palace, and he moved her and her maidservants to the best *place* in the house of the women. ¹⁰Esther had not revealed her people or family, for Mordecai had charged her not to reveal *it*. ¹¹And every day Mordecai paced in front of the court of the women's quarters, to learn of Esther's welfare and what was happening to her. ¹²Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' preparation, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their preparation apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women. ¹³Thus *prepared*, each young woman went to the king, and she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the women's quarters to the king's palace. ¹⁴In the evening she went, and in the morning she returned to the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch who kept the concubines. She would not go in to the king again unless the king delighted in her and called for her by name. ¹⁵Now when the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his daughter, to go in to the king, she requested nothing but what Hegai the king's eunuch, the custodian of the women, advised. And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her. ¹⁶So Esther was taken to King

Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which *is* the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. ¹⁷The king loved Esther more than all the *other* women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. ¹⁸Then the king made a great feast, the Feast of Esther, for all his officials and servants; and he proclaimed a holiday in the provinces and gave gifts according to the generosity of a king. ¹⁹When virgins were gathered together a second time, Mordecai sat within the king's gate. ²⁰*Now* Esther had not revealed her family and her people, just as Mordecai had charged her, for Esther obeyed the command of Mordecai as when she was brought up by him. ²¹In those days, while Mordecai sat within the king's gate, two of the king's eunuchs, Bigthan and Teresh, doorkeepers, became furious and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. ²²So the matter became known to Mordecai, who told Queen Esther, and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name. ²³And when an inquiry was made into the matter, it was confirmed, and both were hanged on a gallows; and it was written in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.

GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-31

"If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever -- ¹⁷"the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹"A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰"At that day you will know that I *am* in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." ²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?" ²³Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴"He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. ²⁵"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. ²⁶"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. ²⁷"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. ²⁸"You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming *back* to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. ²⁹"And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. ³⁰"I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. ³¹"But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.

"How Firm a Foundation"

Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 2/2 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words in italics. The score is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols (G, C, D, D7, G7, D/F#, Em, Am7, C) are placed above the treble staff to indicate the harmonic structure. The lyrics are as follows:

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis-mayed; for I am your
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the riv - ers of
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my grace, all - suf -

faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to
God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and
sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for I will be with you, your
fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I

you he has said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
cause you to stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
trou - bles to bless, and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
on - ly de - sign your dress to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

5. "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.
6. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

SERMON

Isaiah 40:6-11

"Behold Our God"

Pastor David Hills

- 6 The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass,
And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.

- 7 The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people *are* grass.
- 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."
- 9 O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"
- 10 Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him.
- 11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *And* gently lead those who are with young.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1
- Point 2
- Point 3

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Hymn of Preparation**

TUNE: HAMBURG L.M.

"Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands"

Charles Spurgeon, 1866.

Capo 3: ♯ (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B) (Em) (D) (A) (D) ♯

1. A - midst us our Be - lov - ed stands, and bids us
 2. What food lux - u - rious loads the board, when at his
 3. If now, with eyes de - filed and dim, we see the
 4. O glo - rious Bride - groom of our hearts, your pres - ent

(G) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B)

view his pierc - ed hands; points to the wound - ed
 ta - ble sits the Lord! The wine how rich, the
 signs, but see not him; O may his love the
 smile a heav'n im - parts! O lift the veil, if

(Em) (D) (A) (D) Γ (A⁷) (Bm) (Em⁷) (A⁷) (D) Γ

feet and side, blest em - blems of the Cru - ci - fied.
 bread how sweet, when Je - sus deigns the guests to meet!
 scales dis - place, and bid us see him face to face!
 veil there be, let ev - ery saint your glo - ry see!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INVITATION

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

PASSING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

***THE WAFERS ARE NUT AND GLUTEN FREE.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn of Response*

TUNE: SHEPHERD 8.7.8.7.4.4.7.rep.

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Hymns for the Young, 1836.

D A A⁷ D

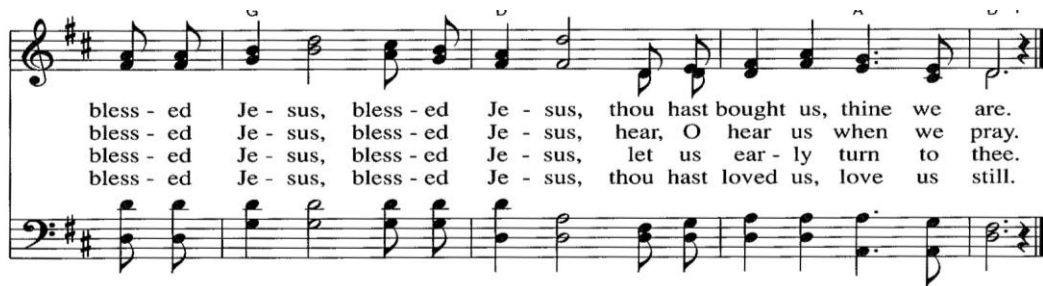
1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine; do thou be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor; ear - ly let us do thy will;

A A⁷ D

in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare:
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray:
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bo - soms fill:

Γ G D A⁷ D

bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, let us ear - ly turn to thee;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;



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: Sunday, September 13 from 6-7:30 p.m. Please Invite your friends!
- 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.
- 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.

Who Should Take Communion?

The question of who is eligible to receive communion is one of vital importance. In order to draw our minds towards examining ourselves in accordance with the Apostle Paul's exhortation to the church in Corinth, the Session of West Erie Presbyterian Church in America encourages all in attendance today to consider the following questions:

- Do you believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for your sins and rose again bodily from the dead?
- Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ alone for your salvation?
- Have you been baptized?
- Are you a communicate member in good standing of a Bible-believing, gospel proclaiming church?
- Are you pursuing a life of obedience by forsaking sin and striving, by grace and help of the Holy Spirit, to glorify God with your entire life?

If you can answer "Yes" to each of these questions, then the Session of West Erie Presbyterian Church in America welcomes and invites you to partake of the Lord's Supper with us today.

If however, you cannot answer "Yes" to each of these questions – or if you are not sure – then we request that you refrain from partaking at this time. We encourage you to take this time to consider your own personal need for Christ, His abundant provision for the salvation of sinners, as well of the biblical requirement to join a local body of believers in humble submission to Christ's provision of elders and overseers. After the service, please come speak with a member of the Session to discuss the steps necessary to enable you to openly enjoy Communion with Christ and his people through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

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

Download our App on all the major carriers!

Wepca.org

