



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“THEREFORE THOSE WHO WERE
SCATTERED WENT EVERYWHERE
PREACHING THE WORD.”

-ACTS 8:4

WORSHIP LEADERS:
PASTOR MARC MILLER, RE MATT FAIR

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalms 89:1-2

Leader: I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

All: For I have said, "Mercy shall be built up forever; Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens."

*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**

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

"Across the Lands"

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"You're the Word of God the Father
From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory;
Let the land and seas rejoice!

CHORUS

You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry;
With a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free!

With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven,
Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father,
Interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home!"

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

PSALM 51:1-9

All: *"Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight -- That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities." Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 53:5-6

Leader: Hear the good news! “But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

“Psalm 1”

“This is the Day the Lord Has Made”

O greatly bless-ed is the man
Who walketh not astray
In counsel of ungodly men,
Nor stands in sinners’ way,

Nor sitteth in the scorner’s chair,
But placeth his delight
Upon GOD’S law, and meditates
On His law day and night.

He shall be like a tree that grows
Set by the water side,
Which in its season yields its fruit,
And green its leaves abide;

And all he does shall prosper well.
The wicked are not so,
But are like chaff which by the wind
Is driven to and fro.

In judgment, therefore, shall not stand
Such as ungodly are,
Nor in th’assembly of the just
Shall wicked men appear.

Because the way of godly men
Is to Jehovah known,
Whereas the way of wicked men
Shall quite be overthrown.

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 149:1-9

Leader: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, *And His praise in the assembly of saints.*

All: *Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.*

Leader: Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.

All: *For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.*

Leader: Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds.

All: *Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples;*

Leader: To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron;

All: *To execute on them the written judgment -- This honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD!*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther 5:1-14

Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on *her* royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house. ²So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, *that* she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that *was* in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter. ³And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What *is* your request? It shall be given to you -- up to half the kingdom!" ⁴So Esther answered, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to the banquet that I have prepared for him." ⁵Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, that he may do as Esther has said." So the king and Haman went to the banquet that Esther had prepared. ⁶At the banquet of wine the king said to Esther, "What *is* your petition? It shall be granted you. What *is* your request, up to half the kingdom? It shall be done!" ⁷Then Esther answered and said, "My petition and request *is this*: ⁸"If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, then let the king and Haman come to the banquet which I will prepare for them, and tomorrow

I will do as the king has said." ⁹So Haman went out that day joyful and with a glad heart; but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, and that he did not stand or tremble before him, he was filled with indignation against Mordecai. ¹⁰Nevertheless Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and called for his friends and his wife Zeresh. ¹¹Then Haman told them of his great riches, the multitude of his children, everything in which the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and servants of the king. ¹²Moreover Haman said, "Besides, Queen Esther invited no one but me to come in with the king to the banquet that she prepared; and tomorrow I am again invited by her, along with the king. ¹³"Yet all this avails me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate." ¹⁴Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a gallows be made, fifty cubits high, and in the morning suggest to the king that Mordecai be hanged on it; then go merrily with the king to the banquet." And the thing pleased Haman; so he had the gallows made.

GOSPEL READING

John 16:16-33

"A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father." ¹⁷Then *some* of His disciples said among themselves, "What is this that He says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?" ¹⁸They said therefore, "What is this that He says, 'A little while'? We do not know what He is saying." ¹⁹Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, "Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'? ²⁰"Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. ²¹"A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²"Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. ²³"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. ²⁴"Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. ²⁵"These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶"In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; ²⁷"for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. ²⁸"I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father." ²⁹His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! ³⁰"Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God." ³¹Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³²"Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. ³³"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

*Psalm of Preparation**

TUNE: I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR

"Psalm 40:1-9"

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

I waited for the LORD; He stooped and heard my cry.
He brought me from the pit, Out of the dungeon mire,
My feet set on a rock, My footsteps made secure.
My lips He gave a song, A song to praise our God.

Many will see with awe, And so will trust the LORD.
Blessed he who trusts in GOD, And turns not to false men.
You have worked wonders, LORD; No one compares to You!
Should I declare each one, Their number is too great.

You want no offering, Nor ask a sacrifice,
But You have given me A ready ear to hear
You ask no off 'rings burnt Nor sacrifice for sin.
So I say, "Here I come, As in the scroll inscribed.

"To do Your will, O God, To me is my delight.
Your law is part of me, Deep in my heart, O God."
In congregation great I told Your righteousness.
You know, LORD, I spoke out; I did not close my lips

SERMON

Acts 8:1-25

"The Spread of the Gospel"

Pastor Marc Miller

- ¹ Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.
- ² And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him.
- ³ As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing *them* to prison.
- ⁴ Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.
- ⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.
- ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.
- ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.
- ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.
- ⁹ But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great,
- ¹⁰ to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God."

- 11 And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.
- 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.
- 13 Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.
- 14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them,
- 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.
- 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- 17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
- 18 And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,
- 19 saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."
- 20 But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!
- 21 "You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God.
- 22 "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.
- 23 "For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."
- 24 Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me."
- 25 So when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1
- Point 2
- Point 3

Hymn of Response*

TUNE: ITALIAN HYMN 6.6.4.6.6.6.4

"Christ for the World We Sing"

Samuel Wolcott, 1869.

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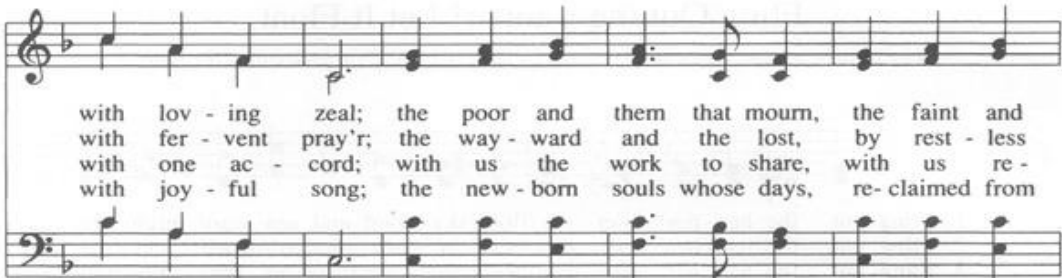
Christ for the World We Sing

Repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations.

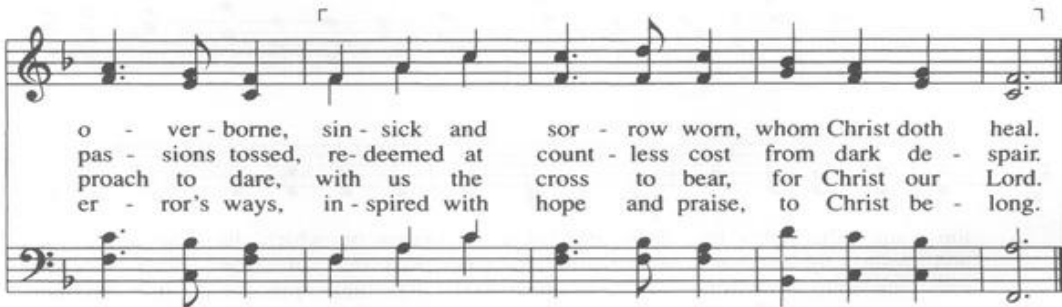
Luke 24:47



1. Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
2. Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
3. Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
4. Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring



with lov - ing zeal; the poor and them that mourn, the faint and
with fer - vent pray'r; the way - ward and the lost, by rest - less
with one ac - cord; with us the work to share, with us re -
with joy - ful song; the new - born souls whose days, re - claimed from



o - ver - borne, sin - sick and sor - row worn, whom Christ doth heal.
pas - sions tossed, re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
proach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
er - ror's ways, in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

BENEDICTION*

Prayer requests

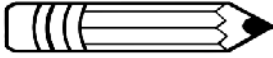
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Spenser and Carmen Family
- Pray for our country's leaders and those who serve us.
- Pray for our elders and deacons.
- Pray for our covenant children.
- Pray for the purchase of a new church property

Announcements

- Youth Group for Grades 6-12: Sunday, October 4, from 6-7:30 p.m. Please Invite your friends!
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, October 3, at 8 am. Please read Lesson 7 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.
- 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: Today following the morning worship service. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- Reformation Day Evening Service: Sunday, November 1 at 6 p.m. at Faith Reformed Church on Saltsman Road. Pastor Matthew Everhard will be preaching. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper next week. Please take some time this week to prepare your heart through prayer and the reading of Scripture.

Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

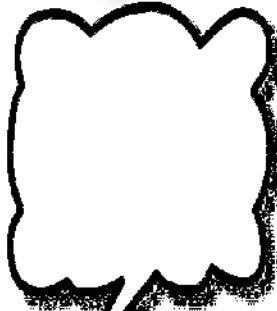
Date: _____



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.



Who is speaking?



Words you heard but don't know...

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book:

Chapter:

Verse:



Favorite song today was:

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:

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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