



**WEST ERIE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“Then Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.”  
– Genesis 21:33*

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, MATT FAIR, R.E.

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 79:13*

Leader: So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, Will give You thanks forever;

*All: We will show forth Your praise to all generations.*

## *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: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

### *“Now Thank We All Our God”*

Martin Rinkart, 1636

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,  
2. O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,  
3. All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,

who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;  
with ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est heav - en -

who from our moth - ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;

with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

### CONFESSON 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.*

### CONFESSON OF SIN

*Psalm 139:1-4, 23-24*

**All:** *"O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting." Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Romans 6:22-23*

Leader: Hear the good news! "But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

### *Psalm 91:1-16*

TUNE: HYFRYDOL 87.87.D

"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners"

Who with God Most High finds shelter In th' Almighty's shadow hides.

To the LORD I'll say, "My Refuge!" In my God my trust abides.

From the fowler's snare He'll save you, From the deadly pestilence;

Cover you with outspread pinions, Make His wings your confidence.

God's own truth, your shield and buckler; You will fear no ill by night,

Nor the shafts in daylight flying, Nor disease that shuns the light,

Nor the plague that wastes at noonday. At your side ten thousand fall;

You will only see this judgment Which rewards the wicked all.

You have made the LORD your refuge, God Most High your dwelling-place;

Nothing evil shall befall you; In your tent no scourge you'll face.

He will angels charge to keep you, Guard you well in all your ways.

In their hands they will uphold you Lest your foot a stone should graze.

You shall trample serpents, lions, Tread on all your deadly foes.

For his love to Me I'll save him, Keep him, for My name he knows;

When he calls Me I will answer, Save and honor him will I.

I will show him my salvation, With long life will satisfy

## 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 90:1-12*

Leader: LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

*All: Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

Leader: You turn man to destruction, And say, "Return, O children of men."

*All: For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it is past, And like a watch in the night.*

Leader: You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up:

*All: In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.*

Leader: For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified.

*All: You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.*

Leader: For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh.

*All: The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.*

Leader: Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.

*All: So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom*

## GOSPEL READING

*Luke 21:20-38*

"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup>Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. <sup>22</sup>For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup>But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup>And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. <sup>25</sup> And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup>men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." <sup>29</sup>Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. <sup>31</sup>So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. <sup>34</sup> But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. <sup>35</sup>For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Watch

therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." <sup>37</sup>And in the daytime He was teaching in the temple, but at night He went out and stayed on the mountain called Olivet. <sup>38</sup>Then early in the morning all the people came to Him in the temple to hear Him.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Acts 5:17-42*

Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, <sup>18</sup>and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. <sup>19</sup> But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup>"Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." <sup>21</sup> And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. <sup>22</sup>But when the officers came and did not find them in the prison, they returned and reported, <sup>23</sup>saying, "Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside!" <sup>24</sup>Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, they wondered what the outcome would be. <sup>25</sup>So one came and told them, saying, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" <sup>26</sup>Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. <sup>27</sup>And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>"The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. <sup>31</sup>"Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>"And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." <sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. <sup>36</sup>"For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>"After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. <sup>38</sup>"And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; <sup>39</sup>"but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it -- lest you even be found to fight against God." <sup>40</sup>And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. <sup>42</sup>And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

# Psalm of Preparation\*

TUNE: HENDON 77.77

# "Psalm 113"

"Take My Life and Let it Be"



1. Praise Je - ho - vah; praise the LORD; Ye His ser - vants,  
2. From the dawn to sett - ing sun Praise the LORD, the  
3. Who is like the LORD our God? High in heav'n is  
4. He the low - ly makes to rise From the dust in  
5. He the child - less wo - man takes and a joy - ful

4  
praise a - ccord; Bless - ed be Je - ho - vah's name;  
Might - y One. O'er all na - tions He is high;  
His a - bode, Who Him - self doth hum - ble low  
which he lies, That ex - alt - ed he may stand  
moth - er makes; Keep - ing house she finds re - ward.

7  
Ev - er - more His praise pro - claim.  
Yea, His glo - ry crowns the sky.  
Things in heav'n and earth to know.  
With the prin - ces of the land.  
Praise Je - ho - vah; praise the LORD.

9  
Ev - er - more His praise pro - claim.  
Yea, His glo - ry crowns the sky.  
Things in heav'n and earth to know.  
With the prin - ces of the land.  
Praise Je - ho - vah; praise the LORD.

## SERMON

Genesis 21:22-34

*"Our Everlasting God"*

*Pastor Marc Miller*

- 22 And it came to pass at that time that Abimelech and Phichol, the commander of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do.
- 23 "Now therefore, swear to me by God that you will not deal falsely with me, with my offspring, or with my posterity; but that according to the kindness that I have done to you, you will do to me and to the land in which you have dwelt."
- 24 And Abraham said, "I will swear."
- 25 Then Abraham rebuked Abimelech because of a well of water which Abimelech's servants had seized.
- 26 And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor had I heard of it until today."

- 27 So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.
- 28 And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.
- 29 Then Abimelech asked Abraham, "What is *the meaning of* these seven ewe lambs which you have set by themselves?"
- 30 And he said, "You will take *these* seven ewe lambs from my hand, that they may be my witness that I have dug this well."
- 31 Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because the two of them swore an oath there.
- 32 Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba. So Abimelech rose with Phichol, the commander of his army, and they returned to the land of the Philistines.
- 33 Then *Abraham* planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.
- 34 And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines many days.

### Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3



# Hymn of Response\*

TUNE: ST. ANNE C.M.

# "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

From Psalm 90. Isaac Watts, 1719.

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,  
with all their lives and cares,  
are carried downward by your flood,  
and lost in foll'wing years.
6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all its sons away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.
7. Our God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come:  
O be our guard while troubles last,  
and our eternal home.

## BENEDICTION\*

\* --Please stand if able

CCLI # 174248

## **Prayer requests**

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Garrett 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, October 1, 8 a.m. – In person & ZOOM, "Let's Study Philippians" Chapter 22-23
- 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 will be studying Assurance of Faith using a Ligonier DVD.
- We are in need of substitute teachers for Sunday School. If you have any interest in serving your church in this way please see Pastor Miller.
- We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper next week. Please take some time to prepare your hearts through prayer and the reading of Scripture.

# Equip: Cultivating a Culture of Missions in Your Church | Oct 14, 15



## OPPORTUNITY DETAILS

**Friday, October 14, Saturday, October 15, 2022**

**Various Churches\***

**In-person**

This seminar is designed for missions committees, pastors, and elders who lead their congregations in missions, and would like to educate in order to bring into new or deeper participation in the missions efforts of your local congregation. This conference will help you discern the next steps in creating a rich culture of missions at your church.

The conference will be led by MTW's Northeast Hub Director Rev. Greg Hills and include breakout sessions for practical application.

\*This training will take place at one of the following locations. Please choose one that is most convenient for you:

1.) Chapel PCA (625 Barclay Hill Rd, Beaver, PA 15009): 10/14, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Tom Stein [pastortomstein@gmail.com](mailto:pastortomstein@gmail.com), Wendy Shidemantle [wshide@geneva.edu](mailto:wshide@geneva.edu)

2.) Hillcrest PCA (5114 Perry Hwy, Volant, PA 16156): 10/15, 8:30–noon

Mark Miller [mgmiller@zoominternet.net](mailto:mgmiller@zoominternet.net)

3.) West Erie PCA (621 W 2nd St, Erie, PA 16507): 10/15, 2:30–6 p.m.

Jonathan Moser [jonviolin93@gmail.com](mailto:jonviolin93@gmail.com)

Let us know you are attending by emailing [pastorscott@christpca.com](mailto:pastorscott@christpca.com) or using the register button to email above.

# 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)).

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