



WEST ERIE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“Unstable as water, you shall not excel,  
because you went up to your father's bed...”*  
*-Genesis 49:4a*

WORSHIP LEADER:  
PASTOR MARC MILLER

THE LORD'S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 98:4-6*

Leader: Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

*All: Sing to the LORD with the harp, With the harp and the sound of a psalm,*

Leader: With trumpets and the sound of a horn; Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King.

## *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: TRINITY 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.

## *“Come, Thou Almighty King”*

Anon. ca. 1757

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 3/4 time, with a bass line accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is supported by a bass line consisting of chords. The lyrics are arranged in two systems, with the first system containing four lines of text and the second system containing three lines. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, Gm, F, C, F, C, F, C7, F, C, F. The lyrics are: 1. Come, thou Al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing, 2. Come, thou In - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword, 3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear in this glad hour, 4. To the great One in Three e - ter - nal prais - es be, help us to praise. Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - our prayer at - tend. Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy in this glad hour. Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in hence ev - er - more. His sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 Word suc - cess; Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
 ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

## CONFESSON OF FAITH\*

*Apostles' 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

**All:** *Almighty God, I am a sinner. Your Word and my heart confirm that to me. I have done things You have forbidden and left undone things You have commanded. I have not loved You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. As judge of the whole earth You would be just to condemn me. Yet in Your love You sent Christ to bear the guilt of my sin and suffer my punishment. To Him now I flee; forgive me for His sake, and by Your Spirit help me to live in the light of His sacrifice, a life worthy of Your name. Judge me not according to my work but according to Your mercy in Jesus Christ. For in Him I hope and in Him I come before You this day. Hear now our silent confession in Jesus' name.*

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Psalm 51:16-17*

**Leader:** Hear the good news! "For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. <sup>17</sup>The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart -- These, O God, You will not despise."

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

### *Psalm 11*

TUNE: TERRA BEATA SMD

"This is My Father's World"

My trust is in the LORD; How can you say to me,  
"Now like a bird from peril haste And to your mountain flee!  
The wicked bend the bow With arrow fixed for flight,  
And stealthily in darkness go The true in heart to smite.

"Foundations are destroyed! What can the righteous try?"  
The LORD is in His holy place; The LORD'S throne is on high.  
His eyes will surely see, His eyelids try men's sons.  
The LORD tries just and wicked men; His soul hates cruel ones.

Upon all wicked men He'll rain entangling snares.  
Brimstone and fire and burning wind He for their cup prepares.  
For righteous is the LORD, And He loves righteousness;  
And every one who upright is Will see His gracious face.

### 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 95:1-11*

Leader: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

*All: Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.*

Leader: For the LORD is the great God, And the great King above all gods.

*All: In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also.*

Leader: The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land.

*All: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.*

Leader: For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand.  
Today, if you will hear His voice:

*All: "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness,*

Leader: When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work.

*All: For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.'*

Leader: So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' "

## GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 25:31-46*

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; <sup>36</sup>I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? <sup>38</sup>When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? <sup>39</sup>Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to *You*?' <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.' <sup>41</sup>Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to *You*?' <sup>45</sup>Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Romans 15:1-13*

We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup>Let each of us please *his* neighbor for *his* good, leading to edification. <sup>3</sup>For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached *You* fell on Me." <sup>4</sup>For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. <sup>5</sup>Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that you may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* to the fathers, <sup>9</sup>and that the Gentiles might glorify God for *His* mercy, as it is

written: "For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name."  
<sup>10</sup>And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!" <sup>11</sup>And again: "Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!" <sup>12</sup>And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup>Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### *Psalm of Preparation\**

TUNE: EVENTIDE 10.10.10.10.

### *"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.

### SERMON

*Genesis 49:1-7*

*"Sin has Consequences, But..."*

*Pastor Marc Miller*

- <sup>1</sup> And Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the last days:
- <sup>2</sup> "Gather together and hear, you sons of Jacob, And listen to Israel your father.
- <sup>3</sup> "Reuben, you are my firstborn, My might and the beginning of my strength, The excellency of dignity and the excellency of power.
- <sup>4</sup> Unstable as water, you shall not excel, Because you went up to your father's bed; Then you defiled it -- He went up to my couch.
- <sup>5</sup> "Simeon and Levi *are* brothers; Instruments of cruelty *are in* their dwelling place.

- 6 Let not my soul enter their council; Let not my honor be united to their assembly; For in their anger they slew a man, And in their self-will they hamstrung an ox.
- 7 Cursed *be* their anger, for *it is* fierce; And their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob And scatter them in Israel.

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### Hymn of Preparation\*

TUNE: HAMBURG L.M.

### "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709.

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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*May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Gal. 6:14*

F F C F Gm D Gm F C F 7

1. When I sur-vey the won-drous cross on which the  
 2. For-bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor-row and  
 4. Were the whole realm of na-ture mine, that were a

Bb F C7 F C7 F C F C F Gm D

Prince of glo-ry died, my rich-est gain I  
 death of Christ my God: all the vain things that  
 love flow min-gled down: did e'er such love and  
 pres-ent far too small; love so a-maz-ing,

Gm F C F 7 C7 Dm Gm C7 F 7

count but loss, and pour con-tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac-ri-fice them to his blood.  
 sor-row meet, or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?  
 so di-vine, de-mands my soul, my life, my all.

*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*

*Sermon Notes:*

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3



## *Hymn of Response\**

Words and Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell

*“His Mercy is More”*

### **Verse 1**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!

### **REFRAIN**

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!

### **Verse 2**

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor,  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!

### **Verse 3**

What riches of kindness Christ lavished on us,  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost!  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford,  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!

### **BENEDICTION\***

\* --Please stand if able  
CCLI # 174248

## Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Williams Family
- Pray for our Sunday School teachers and children.
- Pray for our country's leaders
- Pray for our elders and deacons.

## Announcements

- Prayer meeting: Over Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. If you would like more information, please talk to Pastor Miller.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, March 3, at 8 am at the church. Please read chapter 10 in the study on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel.
- Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday mornings. We have three children's classes and an adult class. The adults are studying "The Basics of the Christian Life." Please see Pastor Miller if you have any questions.
- Youth Group (grades 6-12): Tonight from 6-7:30 p.m. at church.
- Women's Prayer and Fellowship time: Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.
- Church Luncheon: Sunday, February 25, after the morning worship service. The church will provide the main dish of ox roast and we ask you bring a dish or two to pass. Please note we will not have Sunday School that day. There is a sign-up sheet in the back. All are welcome!
- Ascension Presbytery Missions Conference: Friday, March 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. and Saturday, March 9 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. It will be held at Faith Reformed Church. For more information see the back bulletin board.

### ***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](http://www.pcanet.org)).

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