

# "Is Anything Too Hard For The LORD?" -Genesis 18:14a

Worship Leaders: Pastor Marc Miller, R.E. JONATHAN MOSER

THE LORD'S WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2022

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Psalm 111:1-3

Leader: Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with *my* whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and *in* the congregation.

All: The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them.

Leader: His work is honorable and glorious, And His righteousness 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\***

**Psalm of Praise\*** TUNE: EIN FESTE BURG 88.88.66.668 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

God is our refuge and our strength, A present help in our distress. We will not therefore be afraid Tho' all the earth should be removed, Tho' mountains great be hurled Into the ocean's depths, Tho' seas may roar and foam And billows shake the shore, Tho' mountains tremble at their power.

A river brings refreshing streams To cheer the city of our God, The Most High's holy dwelling place. God is in her; she won't be moved; At dawn will God help her. The heathen rage; realms quake; He lifts His voice; earth melts. The LORD of hosts with us! Our fortress strong is Jacob's God.

O come, see what the LORD has done: He desolations brought on earth; On earth He puts an end to wars, Breaks bow and spear, and char-iots burns. Be still! Know I am God. Exalted o'er all men, Exalted o'er all earth. The LORD of hosts with us! Our fortress strong is Jacob's God

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH\***

Apostle's Creed

All: <u>I</u> 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**

From John Calvin's Geneva Liturgy of 1543

All: O Lord our God, we acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil. We are unable on our own to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and all our evil ways. Have compassion on us, most gracious God, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant to us your grace, that we might do your will. Accept us now through Jesus Christ. Remove our guilt and send to us your Holy Spirit. Hear now our silent confession in Jesus' name.

#### SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Micah 7:18

Leader: Hear the good news! "Who *is* a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights *in* mercy."

#### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

**Psalm 104:13-23** TUNE: LYONS 10.10.11.11.

"O Worship the King"

You water the hills with rain from Your sky, With fruit of Your works the earth satisfy. To nourish the cattle You cause grass to grow; For creatures who serve man the plants You bestow.

So man brings forth food by working the earth; And wine that he grows his heart fills with mirth; To make his face shine he extracts fragrant oil And finds bread that strengthens his heart for his toil. The trees of the LORD are all watered well; Great cedars high up on Lebanon dwell. There birds build their nests; the stork makes firs its home. On high rocks the badgers and goats safely roam.

The moon You have set the seasons to show; The sun will its time for each setting know. When You make the darkness, the night follows day, And beasts of the forest creep forth seeking prey.

The young lions roar, from God begging meat, But at the sunrise they quickly retreat, And deep in their dens all day hide from the light, While man works and labors abroad till the night.

#### 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 47:1-9

Leader: Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

All: For the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth.

Leader: He will subdue the peoples under us, And the nations under our feet.

All: He will choose our inheritance for us, The excellence of Jacob whom He loves. Selah

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Leader: For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding.

All: God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

Leader: The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth *belong* to God; He is greatly exalted.

#### **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 10:1-24

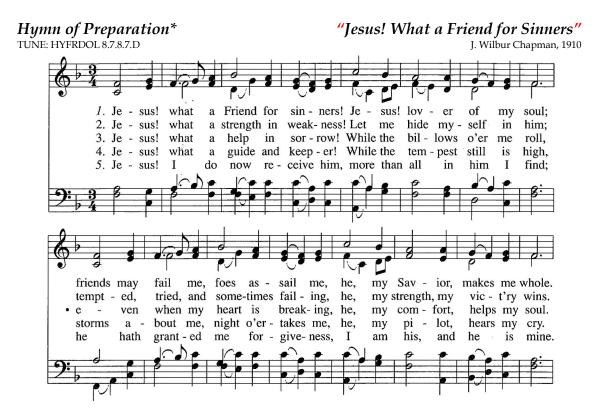
After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. <sup>2</sup>Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. <sup>3</sup>'Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. 4"Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road. <sup>5</sup>"But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' <sup>6</sup>"And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you. 7" And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house. <sup>8</sup>"Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. 9"And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' 10" But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup>'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.' 12"But I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that Day for Sodom than for that city. <sup>13</sup>"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14"But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. 15" And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades. <sup>16</sup>"He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me." <sup>17</sup>Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." 18And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19" Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20" Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven." <sup>21</sup>In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. <sup>22"</sup> All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him."* <sup>23</sup>Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; <sup>24</sup>" for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."

#### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

#### 2 Peter 1:1-21

Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup>Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, <sup>3</sup>as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, <sup>4</sup>by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust. <sup>5</sup>But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, <sup>6</sup>to knowledge self-

control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, <sup>7</sup>to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup>for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup>For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. <sup>13</sup>Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, <sup>14</sup>knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. <sup>15</sup>Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease. <sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. <sup>17</sup>For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; <sup>20</sup>knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup>for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.





## **SERMON**

Genesis 18:1-15

"Friendship and Laughter"

Pastor Marc Miller

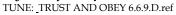
- <sup>1.</sup> Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day.
- <sup>2</sup> So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw *them*, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground,
- <sup>3.</sup> and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant.
- <sup>4.</sup> "Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.

- <sup>5.</sup> "And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said."
- <sup>6</sup> So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead *it* and make cakes."
- <sup>7.</sup> And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave *it* to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it.
- <sup>8.</sup> So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set *it* before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.
- <sup>9</sup> Then they said to him, "Where *is* Sarah your wife?" So he said, "Here, in the tent."
- <sup>10.</sup> And He said, "I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son." (Sarah was listening in the tent door which *was* behind him.)
- <sup>11.</sup> Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; *and* Sarah had passed the age of childbearing.
- <sup>12.</sup> Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"
- <sup>13.</sup> And the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear *a child*, since I am old?'
- <sup>14.</sup> "Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."
- <sup>15.</sup> But Sarah denied *it*, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh!"

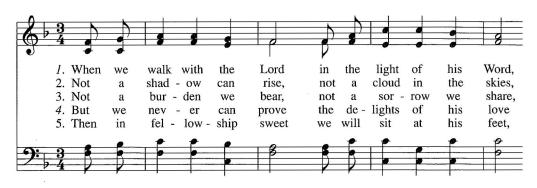
## <u>Sermon Notes:</u>

Point 1

## Hymn of Response\*\_



"Trust and Obey" John H. Sammis, 1887





Point 2

Point 3

## **BENEDICTION\***

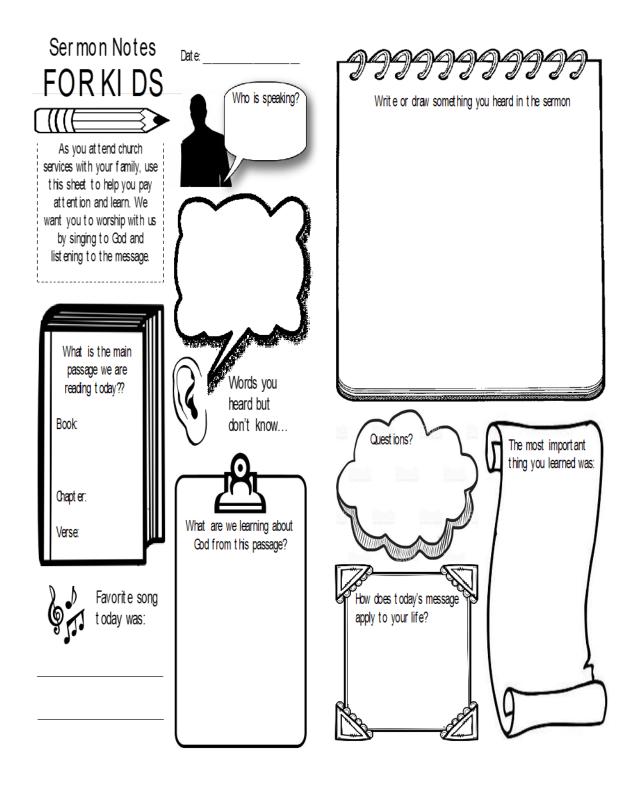
<u>\* --Please stand if able</u> <u>CCLI # 174248</u>

## Prayer Requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Ewing Family
- Pray for country's leaders
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our Elders and Deacons.
- Pray for our Sunday School teachers and students

## **Announcements**

- Prayer meetings continue: Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. ZOOM.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, May 8, 8 a.m. In person & ZOOM, "Let's Study Philippians" chapters 17 – 18.
- Sunday School: Sundays, 10 a.m. In person, 3 elementary aged classes, 1 adult class. The adults are studying the Westminster Shorter Catechism. No Sunday School Sunday, April 17.
- Women's Bible Study: Monday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. In person & ZOOM, "Contentment" by Melissa Kruger (video series) & "Gentle and Lowly" by Dane Ortlund. Contact: Mary Moser (cuteviolin93@gmail.com).
- Good Friday service: Friday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.
- Spring Cleanup and mulch day: Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.



# 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).

Phone: (814) 504-6513 Address: 621 West 2nd Street Erie PA, 16507 E-mail: westeriepca@gmail.com www.wepca.org

## Download our App on all the major carriers