



WEST ERIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“Then they said to one another, “We are truly guilty concerning our brother...”

– Genesis 42:21a

WORSHIP LEADERS:
PASTOR MARC MILLER

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 111:1

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

*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: MADRID 6.6.6.6.D.

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Christian H. Bateman, 1843

1. Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;
 he is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 on heav - en's bliss - ful shore, his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

CONFESSION 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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

All: *Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and corruption, prone to evil, unable of ourselves to do any good; who, by reason of our sinfulness, transgress Your holy commandments. O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offenses! Be pleased then to have compassion on us, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and corruption, grant us the daily increase of Your Holy Spirit that we might put to death the sin that is within us and bear all the fruit of the Spirit in our daily lives. We trust You for these graces on the basis of the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Chris. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 13:38-39; I John 1: 9

Leader: Hear the good news! "Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Psalm 7:1-8

TUNE: TOULON 10.10.10.10

"I Greet Thee, Who my Sure Redeemer Art"

O LORD my God, in You I refuge take. O save me from all those who me pursue.
Lest he should like a lion tear my soul And drag me off, with none to rescue me.

O LORD my God, if wrong is in my hands, If I did evil to my friend or foe,
Let my pursuer overtake me now And trample in the dust my life, my soul.

Arise, O LORD ! In anger lift yourself Against the fury of my enemies.
Awake for me! Your judgment You have set. Let peoples in assembly compass You.

In triumph over them return on high. The LORD now sits to judge the peoples all.
O vindicate me, LORD , in righteousness, According to integrity in me.

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 6:1-10

Leader: O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.

All: *Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.*

Leader: My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O LORD -- how long?

All: *Return, O LORD, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake!*

Leader: For in death *there is* no remembrance of You; in the grave who will give You thanks?

All: *I am weary with my groaning; All night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears.*

Leader: My eye wastes away because of grief; It grows old because of all my enemies.

All: *Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity; For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.*

Leader: The LORD has heard my supplication; The LORD will receive my prayer.

All: *Let all my enemies be ashamed and greatly troubled; Let them turn back and be ashamed suddenly.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. ⁵Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' ⁸So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them *their* wages, beginning with the last to the first.' ⁹And when those came who *were hired* about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. ¹⁰But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. ¹¹And when they had received *it*, they complained against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last *men* have worked *only* one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' ¹³But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take *what is* yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man *the same* as to you. ¹⁵Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 2:17-29

Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God, ¹⁸and know *His* will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law, ¹⁹and are

confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, ²⁰an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. ²¹You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? ²²You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? ²⁴For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written. ²⁵For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. ²⁶Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? ²⁷And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, *even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law?* ²⁸For he is not a Jew who *is one* outwardly, nor *is* circumcision that which *is* outward in the flesh; ²⁹but *he is a Jew who is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

Psalm of Preparation*

TUNE: JOANNA 11.11.11.11.

"9:1-6, 9-10"

"Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise"

I now will give wholehearted thanks to the LORD ,
And all of Your marvelous works will record.
In You will be glad and exultingly cry,
And praise to Your name will I sing, O Most High.

When backward my foes were all turned in despair,
They stumbled and perished because You were there.
For You have defended my judgment and cause;
You sat in just judgment upholding Your laws.

You chided the nations, the wicked destroyed;
Their names You erased and forever made void.
The foe is consumed, is completely erased,
Their cities destroyed and their mem'ry effaced.

The LORD is a stronghold, a lofty strong tower,
For all the oppressed in their troubles' dark hour.
Those knowing Your name, LORD , trust You for Your grace;
You have not forsake n those seeking Your face.

SERMON

Genesis 42:18-24

"Some Ground Breaking to be Done" Pastor Marc Miller

¹⁸ Then Joseph said to them the third day, "Do this and live, *for* I fear God:

¹⁹ "If you *are* honest *men*, let one of your brothers be confined to your prison house; but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses.

- 20 "And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die." And they did so.
- 21 Then they said to one another, "We *are* truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us."
- 22 And Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us."
- 23 But they did not know that Joseph understood *them*, for he spoke to them through an interpreter.
- 24 And he turned himself away from them and wept. Then he returned to them again, and talked with them. And he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Hymn of Preparation**

TUNE: ALL TO CHRIST 6.6.7.7. ref.

"Jesus Paid It All"

Elvina, M. Hall, 1865

1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,
 2. Lord, now in - deed I find your power, and yours a - lone,
 3. For noth - ing good have I where - by your grace to claim—
 4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,

child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."
 can change the lep - er's spots, and melt the heart of stone.
 I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
 "Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re - peat.

REFRAIN

Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;

sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

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: ST. CHRISTOPHER 7.6.8.6.8.6.6.

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1872.

1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,
2. Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eye at times can see
3. I take, O cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place:

the shad - ow of a might - y Rock with - in a wea - ry land;
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
and from my strick - en heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess,
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and the bur - den of the day.
the won - ders of re - deem - ing love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able

CCLI # 174248

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Nachtergaele 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.
- Men's Bible Study: Saturday, November 4, at 8 am at the church. Please read chapter 5 in the study on 1st Samuel.
- Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday mornings. We have three children's classes and an adult class. The adults are studying church history using a Ligonier DVD. Please see Pastor Miller if you have any questions.
- Youth Group (grades 6-12): Our next meeting will be tonight from 6-7:30 p.m. at West Erie PCA. Please invite your friends!
- Please mark your calendars for a joint Reformation Day service to be held at Faith Reformed Church on Sunday, Oct 29, at 6 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Women's Prayer and Fellowship time: Saturday, October 28, at 9 a.m. at church.
- The session has determined that it is time to open nominations for the office of Ruling Elder and to receive nominations from the congregation. Nominations are to be received from communicate members of the church.
 - Prospective officers must be an active male member of West Erie PCA who meet the qualifications as found in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
 - **1 Timothy 3:2-7** ²A bishop (elder) then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; ³not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; ⁴one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence ⁵(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); ⁶ not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the *same* condemnation as the devil. ⁷Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

- If you believe there are men who are members of the congregation that may be qualified for this office please ask them first, and if they are willing to be nominated, inform the elders of the church.
- After a nomination period, a time of training will begin, followed by a called congregational meeting to elect those the session has approved.
- If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Miller or one of the elders of the church.

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).

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