



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“Then Jacob was left alone;
and a Man wrestled with him until the
breaking of day.”*

– Genesis 32:24

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, R. E. MATT FAIR

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Revelation 5:12b

Leader: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

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 88.88.66.666.

"Psalm 46"

"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: *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: *O holy Father, because we are fallen sinful creatures, it is so easy for us to think only of ourselves and ignore the needs of others. Our sinful natures lead us to selfishness and indifference. Thereby, do we harm our brother and sin against You our Father. O Lord, we do humbly confess our selfish nature and plead Your forgiveness. Give us, we pray, the mind and heart of our Savior who loved the unlovely and redeemed us from destruction. Burden us with the souls of those who are perishing that we may be bold to testify of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Use us, Your people, to gather Your elect from the four corners of this world so that Your glory may cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Micah 7:18

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Psalm 16

TUNE: LEOMINSTER SMD

"Not What My Hands Have Done"

Preserve me, O my God; I put my trust in You.
LORD, I confess, You are my Lord; No good have I but You.
The godly ones on earth, Those holy in Your sight,
The noble and majestic ones, Fill me with great delight.

Their sorrows multiply Who after idols seek.
To them I'll no blood off'rings make; Their names I'll never speak.
The LORD the portion is Of my inheritance.
He fills my cup, my lot prepares, Secures to me His grants.

The lines that fell to me Enclose a pleasant site.
The heritage that I received To me is a delight.
I bless the LORD Who guides With counsel that is right.
My heart within me He directs To teach me in the night.

I always keep the LORD Before me, Him to see.
Because He is at my right hand I never moved shall be.
Thus gladness fills my soul; My joy must be expressed
With my whole being, for my flesh Securely finds its rest.

My soul You will not leave In death's dark pit to be.
Corruption You will not permit Your Holy One to see.
The path of life You'll show; Of joy You hold great store.
Before Your face, at Your right hand, Are pleasures evermore.

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 67:1-7

Leader: God be merciful to us and bless us, *And* cause His face to shine upon us. *Selah*

All: *That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.*

Leader: Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

All: *Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth. Selah*

Leader: Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

All: *Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us.*

Leader: God shall bless us, And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

GOSPEL READING

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶"You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷"Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸"A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹"Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰"Therefore by their fruits you will know them. ²¹"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²²"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' ²⁴"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵"and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷"and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." ²⁸And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 15:22-41

Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was also named Barsabas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren. ²³They wrote this letter by them: The apostles, the elders, and the brethren, To the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: Greetings. ²⁴Since we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, "You must be circumcised and keep the law" -- to whom we gave no such commandment -- ²⁵it seemed good to us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who will also report the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: ²⁹that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell. ³⁰So when they were sent off, they came to Antioch; and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the letter. ³¹When they had read it, they rejoiced over its encouragement. ³²Now Judas and Silas, themselves being prophets also, exhorted and strengthened the brethren with many words. ³³And after they had stayed there for a time, they were sent back with greetings from the brethren to the apostles. ³⁴However, it seemed good to Silas to remain there. ³⁵Paul and Barnabas also remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also. ³⁶Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing." ³⁷Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. ³⁸But Paul

insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. ³⁹Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; ⁴⁰but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. ⁴¹And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: HOLY DESIRE 9.9.9.9

"Have Thine Own Way,, Lord!"

Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902

Capo 1: ♮ (D) (G/D) (D) (A⁷) 7

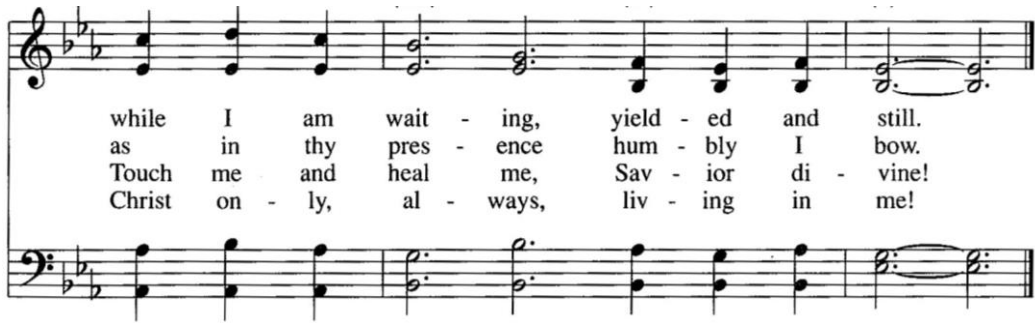
1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
 2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
 3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
 4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

(F♯m/A) (A⁷) (D)

Thou art the pot - ter; I am the clay.
 Search me and try me, Mas - ter, to - day!
 Wound - ed and wea - ry, help me, I pray!
 Hold o'er my be - ing ab - so - lute sway!

(G/D) (D) (D⁷) (G)

Mold me and make me af - ter thy will,
 Whit - er than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
 Pow - er, all pow - er, sure - ly is thine!
 Fill with thy Spir - it till all shall see



SERMON

Genesis 32:22-32

"Wrestling with God"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 22 And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok.
- 23 He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had.
- 24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.
- 25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.
- 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"
- 27 So He said to him, "What *is* your name?" He said, "Jacob."
- 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."
- 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell *me* Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why *is it that* you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.
- 30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."
- 31 Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.
- 32 Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which *is* on the hip socket, because He touched the socket of Jacob's hip in the muscle that shrank

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Hymn of Preparation**

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend

"Behold the Lamb"

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Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away Slain for us and we remember
 The promise made that all who come in faith Find forgiveness at the cross
 So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice
 As a sign of our bonds of peace Around the table of the King

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ Torn for you eat and remember
 The wounds that heal the death that brings us life Paid the price to make us one
 So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice
 As a sign of our bonds of love Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin Shed for you drink and remember
 He drained death's cup that all may enter in To receive the life of God
 So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice
 As a sign of our bonds of grace Around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise To respond and to remember
 Our call to follow in the steps of Christ As His body here on earth
 As we share in His suffering We proclaim Christ will come again
 And we'll join in the feast of heaven Around the table of the King

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* next pg.

TUNE: EL NATHAN C.M. ref.

"I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Daniel W. Whittle, 1883

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able
CCLI # 174248

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Nachtergaele 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.
- Pray for our Church remodel/expansion planning

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, April 1, at 8 a.m. – In person & ZOOM. Please read chapter 2 in the 1st Samuel study book.
- Sunday School Starts at 10 a.m. We have a class for Pre-K to 1st Grade, 2nd to 4th grade, 5th to 8th grade, and an adult class. The Adults are studying the Westminster Shorter Catechism.
- We will be starting a new membership/inquirers/communicate membership class on March 12. The class will be held at church on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m., and will last for 6 weeks. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet in the back of church. The materials will be provided.
- Good Friday Service: Friday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

1. I know not why God's won-drous grace to me he has made known,
 2. I know not how this sav-ing faith to me he did im-part,
 3. I know not how the Spir-it moves, con-vinc-ing men of sin,
 4. I know not what of good or ill may be re-served for me,
 5. I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noon-day fair,

nor why, un-wor- thy, Christ in love re-deemed me for his own.
 nor how be-liev-ing in his Word wrought peace with-in my heart.
 • re-veal-ing Je-sus through the Word, cre-at-ing faith in him.
 of wea-ry ways or gold-en days, be-fore his face I see.
 nor if I'll walk the vale with him, or "meet him in the air."

But "I know whom I have be-liev-ed, and am per-suad-ed that he is

a-ble to keep that which I've com-mit-ted un-to him a-gainst that day."

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 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).

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