



WEST ERIE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her....”*

*– Genesis 34:1a*

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, MATT FAIR, R.E.

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*Psalm 113:1-3*

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, Praise the name of the LORD!

**All:** *Blessed be the name of the LORD From this time forth and forevermore!*

Leader: From the rising of the sun to its going down The LORD's name is to be praised.

## *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: CRUSADER'S HYMN 5.6.8.5.5.8

### *“Fairest Lord Jesus”*

Munster Gesanbuch, 1677

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all na - ture,  
2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3. Fair - is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

(G) (D) (A7) (D) (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (B7) (Em)

Son of God and Son of Man! Thee will I cher - ish,  
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
and all the twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,  
Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heav'n can boast.  
 praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

### 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

*Psalms 51:1-9*

**All:** *"Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight -- That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities." Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

### SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Proverbs 28:13*

Leader: Hear the good news! "He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy."

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

### *Psalm 1*

TUNE: ARLINGTON CM

"This is the Day the Lord has Made"

O greatly bless-ed is the man Who walketh not astray  
In counsel of ungodly men, Nor stands in sinners' way,

Nor sitteth in the scorner's chair, But placeth his delight  
Upon GOD'S law, and meditates On His law day and night.

He shall be like a tree that grows Set by the water side,  
Which in its season yields its fruit, And green its leaves abide;

And all he does shall prosper well. The wicked are not so,  
But are like chaff which by the wind Is driven to and fro.

In judgment, therefore, shall not stand Such as ungodly are,  
Nor in th'assembly of the just Shall wicked men appear.

Because the way of godly men Is to Jehovah known,  
Whereas the way of wicked men Shall quite be overthrown

## 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 130:1-8*

Leader: Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD;

*All: Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications.*

Leader: If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? <sup>4</sup>

*All: But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.*

Leader: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope.

*All: My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning -- Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.*

Leader: O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD *there is* mercy, And with Him *is* abundant redemption.

*All: And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.*

## GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 8:18-34*

And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side. <sup>19</sup>Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go." <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." <sup>21</sup>Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." <sup>22</sup>But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead." <sup>23</sup>Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. <sup>24</sup>And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. <sup>25</sup>Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" <sup>26</sup>But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup>So the men marveled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" <sup>28</sup>When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup>And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" <sup>30</sup>Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. <sup>31</sup>So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." <sup>32</sup>And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. <sup>33</sup>Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. <sup>34</sup>And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Acts 16:16-40*

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." <sup>18</sup>And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. <sup>19</sup>But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. <sup>20</sup>And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; <sup>21</sup>"and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." <sup>22</sup>Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off

their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. <sup>25</sup>But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. <sup>27</sup>And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. <sup>28</sup>But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup>Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup>So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup>Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. <sup>34</sup>Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. <sup>35</sup>And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Let those men go." <sup>36</sup>So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace." <sup>37</sup>But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out." <sup>38</sup>And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans. <sup>39</sup>Then they came and pleaded with them and brought them out, and asked them to depart from the city. <sup>40</sup>So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

### *Psalm of Preparation\**

TUNE: REDHEAD 77.77.77.

### *"Psalm 51:12-19"*

"Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me"

Give salvation's joy again, And a willing mind sustain.

Then Thy perfect ways I'll show That transgressors may them know;  
They converted then shall be; Sinners shall be turned to Thee.

Free me from the guilt of blood, God, of my salvation God;  
Then with joy my tongue shall raise Songs Thy righteousness to praise.  
Open Thou my lips, O Lord; Then my mouth shall praise accord.

Sacrifice Thou wilt not take, Else would I the off'ring make.  
Off' rings burnt bring no delight, But a broken heart, contrite,  
God's accepted sacrifice, Thou, O God, wilt not despise.

Prosper Zion in Thy grace; Salem's broken walls replace.  
Then shall sacrifices right, Whole burnt off' rings Thee delight;  
So will men, their vows to pay, Bulls on Thine altar lay.

## SERMON

**Genesis 34:1-31**

**"A Flood of Sin"**

**Pastor Marc Miller**

- 1 Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.
- 2 And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her, and violated her.
- 3 His soul was strongly attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the young woman and spoke kindly to the young woman.
- 4 So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, "Get me this young woman as a wife."
- 5 And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter. Now his sons were with his livestock in the field; so Jacob held his peace until they came.
- 6 Then Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with him.
- 7 And the sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard *it*; and the men were grieved and very angry, because he had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, a thing which ought not to be done.
- 8 But Hamor spoke with them, saying, "The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife.
- 9 "And make marriages with us; give your daughters to us, and take our daughters to yourselves.
- 10 "So you shall dwell with us, and the land shall be before you. Dwell and trade in it, and acquire possessions for yourselves in it."
- 11 Then Shechem said to her father and her brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you say to me I will give.
- 12 "Ask me ever so much dowry and gift, and I will give according to what you say to me; but give me the young woman as a wife."
- 13 But the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father, and spoke deceitfully, because he had defiled Dinah their sister.
- 14 And they said to them, "We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised, for that *would be* a reproach to us.
- 15 "But on this *condition* we will consent to you: If you will become as we *are*, if every male of you is circumcised,
- 16 "then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to us; and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people.
- 17 "But if you will not heed us and be circumcised, then we will take our daughter and be gone."
- 18 And their words pleased Hamor and Shechem, Hamor's son.
- 19 So the young man did not delay to do the thing, because he delighted in Jacob's daughter. He *was* more honorable than all the household of his father.
- 20 And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city, and spoke with the men of their city, saying:

- 21 “These men *are* at peace with us. Therefore let them dwell in the land and trade in it. For indeed the land *is* large enough for them. Let us take their daughters to us as wives, and let us give them our daughters.
- 22 “Only on this *condition* will the men consent to dwell with us, to be one people: if every male among us is circumcised as they *are* circumcised.
- 23 “*Will* not their livestock, their property, and every animal of theirs *be* ours? Only let us consent to them, and they will dwell with us.”
- 24 And all who went out of the gate of his city heeded Hamor and Shechem his son; every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of his city.
- 25 Now it came to pass on the third day, when they were in pain, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah’s brothers, each took his sword and came boldly upon the city and killed all the males.
- 26 And they killed Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah from Shechem’s house, and went out.
- 27 The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and plundered the city, because their sister had been defiled.
- 28 They took their sheep, their oxen, and their donkeys, what *was* in the city and what *was* in the field,
- 29 and all their wealth. All their little ones and their wives they took captive; and they plundered even all that *was* in the houses.
- 30 Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “You have troubled me by making me obnoxious among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites; and since I *am* few in number, they will gather themselves together against me and kill me. I shall be destroyed, my household and I.”
- 31 But they said, “Should he treat our sister like a harlot?”

## Sermon Notes:

- Point 1



- Point 2

- Point 3

### *Hymn of Response\**

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

### *"In Christ Alone"*

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"In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all – Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid – Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine – Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death – This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home – Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand."

### **BENEDICTION\***

\* --Please stand if able  
CCLI # 174248

### **Prayer requests**

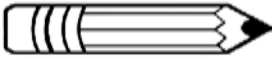
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Kawachi Family
- Pray for our country's leaders
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our Elders and Deacons.
- Pray our Sunday School Teachers and Students
- Please pray for the for a church plant ongoing in Cranberry Township, PA.
- Pray for our Church remodel/expansion 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 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel study book. We will cover the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> sections.
- 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 are studying a Ligonier DVD on the New Testament Canon.
- Good Friday Service: Friday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

# Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

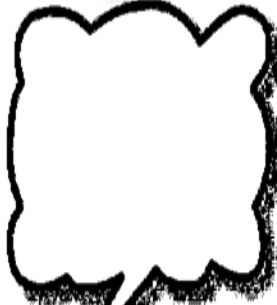
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



As you attend church services with your family, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.



Who is speaking?



Words you heard but don't know...

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Verse \_\_\_\_\_

What are we learning about God from this passage?

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

Questions?

The most important thing you learned was:

How does today's message apply to your life?



Favorite song today was:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 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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