



*"So there they laid Jesus,
because of the Jews' Preparation Day,
for the tomb was nearby." - John 19:24*

THE LORD'S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

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 (MEINKE)

Irreg. Charles Meineke, 1844

“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 6.6.4.6.6.4.

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Anon., ca 1757

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
 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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH*

Nicene Creed

All: *We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his father before all worlds, God of God, Light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and life in the world to come. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Psalm 6:1-4

All: *"O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure. Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled. My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O LORD -- how long? Return, O LORD, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake (Psalm 6:1-4)!" Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 6:23

Leader: Hear the good news! *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

***We ask that for the time being you send your tithe checks by mail to our treasurer*

Psalm 126

TUNE: OLIVET 664.66.64

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

When Zion's exile band The LORD brought back, we were as those who dream.
For then our mouth was filled With laughter and delight;
Our tongue then overflowed With shouts of joy.

Among the nations all They said, "The LORD has done Great things for them!"
The LORD has done for us Great things, and we are glad.
Restore our fortunes, LORD, Like desert streams.

For those who sow in tears Shall reap at harvest time With shouts of joy.
The one who weeping goes, Bearing his precious seed,
Shall singing come again, Bearing his sheaves.

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 40:1-9

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.

All: *He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.*

Leader: He has put a new song in my mouth -- Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD.

All: *Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.*

Leader: Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.

All: *Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.*

Leader: Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me.

All: *I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."*

Leader: I have proclaimed the good news of righteousness In the great assembly; Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O LORD, You Yourself know.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 20:14-29

Now Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom. "Thus says your brother Israel: 'You know all the hardship that has befallen us, ¹⁵how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we dwelt in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians afflicted us and our fathers. ¹⁶When we cried out to the LORD, He heard our voice and sent the Angel and brought us up out of Egypt; now here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your border. ¹⁷Please let us pass through your country. We will not pass through fields or vineyards, nor will we drink water from wells; we will go along the King's Highway; we will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory.' " ¹⁸Then Edom said to him, "You shall not pass through my *land*, lest I come out against you with the sword." ¹⁹So the children of Israel said to him, "We will go by the Highway, and if I or my livestock drink any of your water, then I will pay for it; let me only pass through on foot, nothing *more*." ²⁰Then he said, "You shall not pass through." So Edom came out against them with many men and with a strong hand. ²¹Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory; so Israel turned away from him. ²²Then the children of Israel, the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh and came to Mount Hor. ²³And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor by the border of the land of Edom, saying: ²⁴"Aaron shall be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against My word at the water of Meribah. ²⁵"Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them

up to Mount Hor; ²⁶and strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; for Aaron shall be gathered *to his people* and die there.” ²⁷So Moses did just as the LORD commanded, and they went up to Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation. ²⁸Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain. ²⁹Now when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, all the house of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Galatians 4:1-31

Now I say *that* the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ²but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. ⁸But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. ⁹But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how *is it that* you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? ¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years. ¹¹I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. ¹²Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I *became* like you. You have not injured me at all. ¹³You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first. ¹⁴And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as an angel of God, *even* as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵What then was the blessing you *enjoyed*? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth? ¹⁷They zealously court you, *but* for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them. ¹⁸But it is good to be zealous in a good thing always, and not only when I am present with you. ¹⁹My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you, ²⁰I would like to be present with you now and to change my tone; for I have doubts about you. ²¹Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. ²³But he *who was* of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, ²⁴which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar -- ²⁵for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children -- ²⁶but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. ²⁷For it is written: “Rejoice, O barren, *You* who do not bear! Break forth and shout, *You* who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband.” ²⁸Now we, brethren, as Isaac *was*, are children of promise. ²⁹But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him *who was born* according to the Spirit, even so *it is* now. ³⁰Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for

the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” ³¹So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

*Psalm of Preparation**

TUNE: NEW BRITAIN CM

“Psalm 3”

“Amazing Grace”

O LORD, how are my foes increased! Against me many rise.
How many say, “In vain for help He on his God relies!”

You are my shield and glory, LORD; You lifted up my head.
I cried out, “LORD!” and from His hill To me His answer sped.

I lay down, slept, and woke again The LORD is keeping me.
I will not fear ten thousand men Entrenched surrounding me.

Arise, O LORD! Save me, my God! You punish all my foes.
You smite the face of wicked men, Their teeth break with your blows.

Deliverance is from the LORD, Salvation His alone!
O let Your blessing evermore Be on Your people shown!

SERMON

John 19:38-42

“The Burial of Jesus”

Pastor Marc Miller

- ³⁸ After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.
- ³⁹ And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.
- ⁴⁰ Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.
- ⁴¹ Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.
- ⁴² So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews’ Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

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
 PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn of Response*

TUNE: FOUNTAIN 8.6.8.6.6.6.8.6.

"There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood"

William Cowper, 1771

Capo 1: ♮ (A) (D) (A) (D) (A) $\bar{7}$ (D) (A) (E)

1. There is a foun - tain filled with blood, drawn from Im - man - uel's veins;
 2. The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that foun - tain in his day;
 3. E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flow - ing wounds sup - ply,
 4. Then in a no - bler, sweet - er song I'll sing your pow'r to save,
 5. Dear dy - ing Lamb, your pre - cious blood shall nev - er lose its pow'r,

(A) (D) (A) (D) (A) (E⁷) (A)

and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains;
 and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way;
 • re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die;
 when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave:
 till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more:

(E⁷) (A) (D) (A) (D) (A) (E)

lose all their guilt - y stains, lose all their guilt - y stains;
 washed all my sins a - way, washed all my sins a - way;
 • and shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
 lies si - lent in the grave, lies si - lent in the grave;
 be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;

and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains.
 and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.
 • re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
 when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave.
 till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more.

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able
 CCLI # 174248

Prayer Requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Garrett Family
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our elders
- Pray for those dealing with physical ailments
- Pray for our Nation's leaders
- Pray for God's all sufficient grace to be known in all our lives

Announcements

- We will be having a prayer meeting over Zoom on Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.
- The next men's fellowship breakfast will be on Saturday, January 9, at 8 a.m., at the IHOP on west 12th street. If you need more information, please contact Pastor Miller.
- We praise God for his faithfulness to us in providing us with a place of our own to worship and the ability to pay it off!

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.**
 - This means that we believe in the inspired and inerrant Word of God.
 - This means we believe in the absolute sovereignty of God.
 - This means we hold to a covenantal framework of Scripture.
 - This means that 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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