



*“Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”
-John 20:27b*

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 111:1-4

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.

All: *He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.*

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*

Psalm of Praise*

TUNE: TERRA BEATA SMI

“Psalm 11”

“This is My Father’s World”

My trust is in the LORD; How can you say to me,
“Now like a bird from peril haste And to your mountain flee!
The wicked bend the bow With arrow fixed for flight,
And stealthily in darkness go The true in heart to smite.

“Foundations are destroyed! What can the righteous try?”
The LORD is in His holy place; The LORD’S throne is on high.
His eyes will surely see, His eyelids try men’s sons.
The LORD tries just and wicked men; His soul hates cruel ones.

Upon all wicked men He’ll rain entangling snares.
Brimstone and fire and burning wind He for their cup prepares.
For righteous is the LORD, And He loves righteousness;
And every one who upright is Will see His gracious face.

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

Psalms 130:1-8

All: "Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD; Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications. If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope. My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning -- Yes, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD there is mercy, And with Him is abundant redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities." Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Timothy 1:15

Leader: Hear the good news! "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

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

Psalm 23

TUNE: CRIMOND

“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”

The LORD’S my Shepherd, I’ll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again; And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, Ev’n for His own name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.

A table Thou has furnished me In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me;
And in GOD’S house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

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 9:1-10

Leader: I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

All: *I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.*

Leader: When my enemies turn back, They shall fall and perish at Your presence.

All: *You have maintained my right and my cause; You sat on the throne judging in righteousness.*

Leader: You have rebuked the nations, You have destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name forever and ever.

All: *O enemy, destructions are finished forever! And you have destroyed cities; Even their memory has perished.*

Leader: But the LORD shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment.

All: *He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.*

Leader: The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble.

All: And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 23:27-24:1-25

Then Balak said to Balaam, "Please come, I will take you to another place; perhaps it will please God that you may curse them for me from there."²⁸ So Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor, that overlooks the wasteland.²⁹ Then Balaam said to Balak, "Build for me here seven altars, and prepare for me here seven bulls and seven rams."³⁰ And Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered a bull and a ram on *every* altar. Now when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go as at other times, to seek to use sorcery, but he set his face toward the wilderness.² And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.³ Then he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, The utterance of the man whose eyes are opened, ⁴The utterance of him who hears the words of God, Who sees the vision of the Almighty, Who falls down, with eyes wide open: ⁵'How lovely are your tents, O Jacob! Your dwellings, O Israel! ⁶'Like valleys that stretch out, Like gardens by the riverside, Like aloes planted by the LORD, Like cedars beside the waters. ⁷He shall pour water from his buckets, And his seed *shall be* in many waters. 'His king shall be higher than Agag, And his kingdom shall be exalted. ⁸'God brings him out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox; He shall consume the nations, his enemies; He shall break their bones And pierce *them* with his arrows. ⁹He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?' 'Blessed *is* he who blesses you, And cursed *is* he who curses you."¹⁰ Then Balak's anger was aroused against Balaam, and he struck his hands together; and Balak said to Balaam, "I called you to curse my enemies, and look, you have bountifully blessed *them* these three times! ¹¹"Now therefore, flee to your place. I said I would greatly honor you, but in fact, the LORD has kept you back from honor."¹² So Balaam said to Balak, "Did I not also speak to your messengers whom you sent to me, saying, ¹³'If Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the word of the LORD, to do good or bad of my own will. What the LORD says, that I must speak'? ¹⁴"And now, indeed, I am going to my people. Come, I will advise you what this people will do to your people in the latter days."¹⁵ So he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, And the utterance of the man whose eyes are opened; ¹⁶The utterance of him who hears the words of God, And has the knowledge of the Most High, *Who* sees the vision of the Almighty, *Who* falls down, with eyes wide open: ¹⁷"I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult. ¹⁸"And Edom shall be a possession; Seir also, his enemies, shall be a possession, While Israel does valiantly. ¹⁹Out of Jacob One shall have dominion, And destroy the remains of the city."²⁰ Then he looked on Amalek, and he took up his oracle and said: "Amalek *was* first among the nations, But *shall be* last until he perishes."²¹ Then he looked on the Kenites, and he took up his oracle and said: "Firm is your dwelling place, And your nest is set in the rock; ²²Nevertheless Kain shall be burned. How long until Asshur carries you away captive?"²³ Then he took up his oracle and said: "Alas! Who shall live when God does this? ²⁴But ships *shall come* from the coasts of Cyprus, And they shall afflict Asshur and afflict Eber, And so

shall *Amalek*, until he perishes.” ²⁵So Balaam rose and departed and returned to his place; Balak also went his way.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 4:1-32

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ²with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. ⁷But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” ⁹(Now this, “He ascended” -- what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) ¹¹And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head -- Christ -- ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. ¹⁷This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another. ²⁶“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷nor give place to the devil. ²⁸Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. ²⁹Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: HAMBURG L.M.

"Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands"

Charles H. Spurgeon, 1866

Capo 3: ♮ (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B) (Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮

1. A - midst us our Be - lov - ed stands, and bids us
2. What food lux - u - rious loads the board, when at his
3. If now, with eyes de - filed and dim, we see the
4. O glo - rious Bride - groom of our hearts, your pres - ent

(G) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B)

view his pierc - ed hands; points to the wound - ed
ta - ble sits the Lord! The wine how rich, the
signs, but see not him; O may his love the
smile a heav'n im - parts! O lift the veil, if

(Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮ (A⁷) (Bm) (Em⁷) (A⁷) (D) ♮

feet and side, blest em - blems of the Cru - ci - fied.
bread how sweet, when Je - sus deigns the guests to meet!
scales dis - place, and bid us see him face to face!
veil there be, let ev - ery saint your glo - ry see!

SERMON

John 20:24-29

"Unbelief to Belief"

Pastor Marc Miller

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

- ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."
- ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"
- ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."
- ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"
- ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

*Hymn of Response**

Words and Music by Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend

“By Faith”

“By faith we see the hand of God In the light of creation’s grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness Who walk by faith and not by sight
By faith our fathers roamed the earth With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God’s own hand A place where peace and justice reign
We will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul’s reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done We’ll walk by faith and not by sight
By faith the prophets saw a day When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death And rise triumphant from the grave
By faith the church was called to go In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news In every corner of the earth
We will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul’s reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done We’ll walk by faith and not by sight
By faith this mountain shall be moved And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible For all who call upon His name
We will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul’s reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done We’ll walk by faith and not by sight “

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able

CCLI # 174248

Prayer Requests

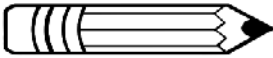
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Garrett Family
- Pray for our covenant children
- Pray for our elders
- Pray for those dealing with physical ailments
- Pray for our Nation's leaders
- Pray for God's all sufficient grace to be known in all our lives

Announcements

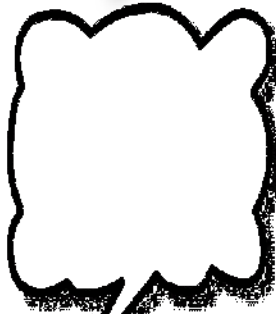
- We will be having a prayer meeting over Zoom on Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.
- The next men's fellowship breakfast will be on Saturday, February 6, at 8 a.m., at the IHOP on west 12th street. If you need more information, please contact Pastor Miller.
- We 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!

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.



Words you heard but don't know...

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book:

Chapter:

Verse:



Favorite song today was:

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?

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).

Phone: (814) 504-6513

Address: 621 West 2nd Street Erie PA, 16507

E-mail: westeriepca@gmail.com

www.wepca.org