



*“Unless the LORD builds the house, they
labor in vain who build it...” -Psalm 127a*

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, R.E. MATT FAIR

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 84:1-4, 10

Leader: How lovely *is* Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts!

All: *My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*

Leader: Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young -- *Even* Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God.

All: *Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah*

Leader: For a day in Your courts *is* better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

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: OLD 100TH LM

“Palm 100”

Based on William Kethe and Scottish Psalter, 1564

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the LORD with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth; His praise forth tell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the LORD is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk; He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise; Within His courts your thanks proclaim;
With grateful hearts your voices raise To bless and magnify His name.

Because the LORD our God is good, His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.

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

All: Father, no one can forgive sins except You alone. No one can determine what is a sin except You alone. We confess that, according to Your law, we have all fallen short in many ways. We have sinned against You in this last week, and we seek Your cleansing and forgiveness now. Particularly, we have not loved You as we ought. We have neglected to glorify You in thought, word, and deed, and we have sought our own interests without reference to You. For these sins, we ask Your pardon. Mercy and truth go before Your face. You love righteousness and hate wickedness. And yet, through the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, to You belongs great mercy. We come to You now, Father, seeking Your free pardon in Christ. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 55:6-7

Leader: Hear the good news! "Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

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

Psalm 133

TUNE: AZMON CM

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Behold how good a thing it is, and how becoming well,
When those that brethren are delight In unity to dwell.

For it is like the precious oil Poured out on Aaron's head,
That, going down upon his beard, Upon his garments spread.

Like Hermon's dew upon the hills Of Zion that descends,
The LORD commands His blessing there, Ev'n life that never ends.

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."

DEDICATION LITANY*

R.E. Jonathan Moser

Leader: To You, God and Father of Jesus Christ, our Lord

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: To You, eternal Son of God, Redeemer of Your people and Head of the church

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: To You, Spirit of God, lord and giver of life, our teacher, sanctifier and comforter.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the worship of God in praise and prayer; For the preaching of the gospel of the grace of God; For the celebration of the holy Sacraments.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the diffusion of sacred knowledge; For the promotion of righteousness; For the extension of the kingdom of God.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For release of the captives; For recovering of sight to the blind; For rest to the heavy laden. – cont.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For comfort to those who mourn; For strength to those who are tempted; For assurance to those of little faith.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the sanctifying of the family; For the nurture of the young; For the perfection of believers.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: In gratitude for the gracious keeping of the divine covenant throughout past generations; In reliance upon the promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church; In the hope of the eternal glory of the Church Triumphant

All: We dedicate this house

GOSPEL READING

John 17:1-26

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ²as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. ⁶I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. ⁷Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. ⁸For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. ⁹I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*. ¹²While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. ²⁰I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²²And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that

they may be one just as We are one: ²³"I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. ²⁴"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵"O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶"And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 2:1-22

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. ¹¹Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh -- who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands -- ¹²that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. ¹⁷And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. ¹⁸For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

R.E. Emeritus Ken Peterson

Hymn of Preparation*

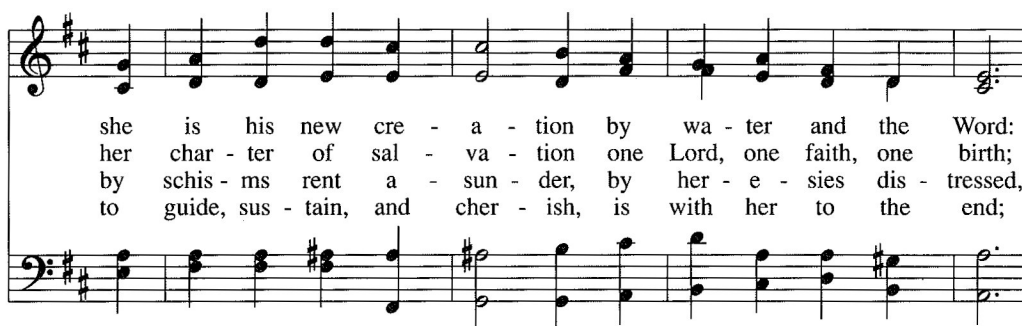
TUNE: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.

"The Church's One Foundation"

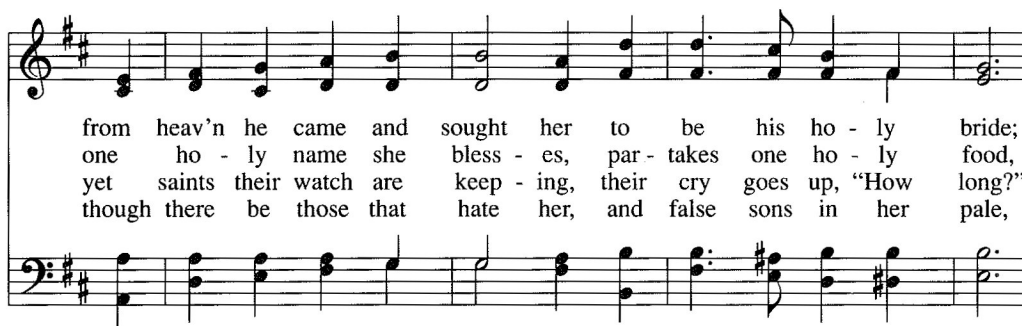
Samuel J. Stone, 1866



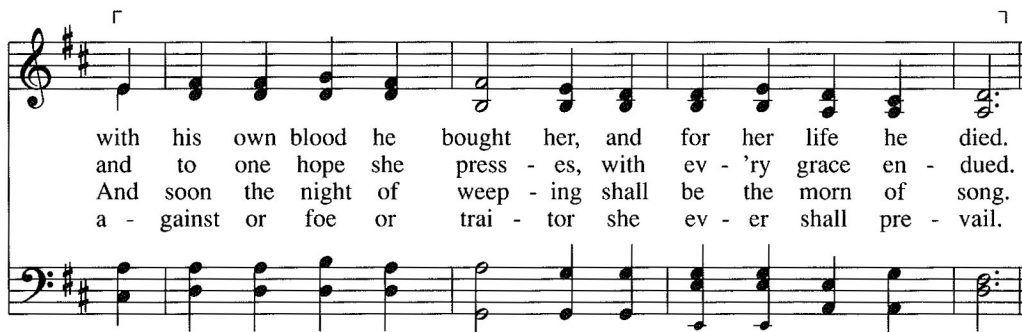
1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;



from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

5. 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

6. Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

SERMON

Psalm 127:1a

"The Lord's House"

Pastor Marc Miller

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it...

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

*Hymn of Response**

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

“O Church Arise”

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O Church, arise, and put your armour on; Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth, We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love, Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole, We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died, An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet, As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away, And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come put strength in every stride, Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way, Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day When with Christ we stand in glory.

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able
CCLI # 174248

Prayer Requests

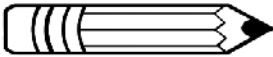
- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Kawachi Family
- Pray for our Nation's leaders
- Pray for our elders
- Pray for our deacon training process
- Pray for all of those dealing with physical ailments

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, April 3, at 8 a.m., at the Cracker Barrell located at Peach St. and 1-90. If you need more information, please contact Pastor Miller.
- Please mark your calendars for our first ever Good Friday Service. The service will be held on Friday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

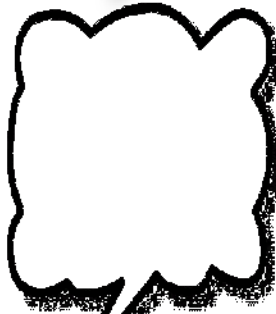
Date: _____



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:



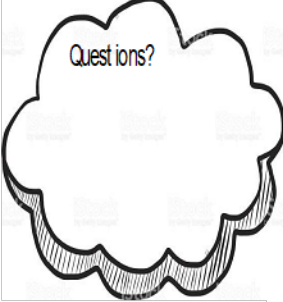
Favorite song today was:



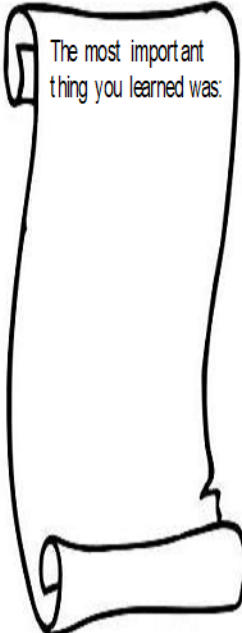
What are we learning about God from this passage?



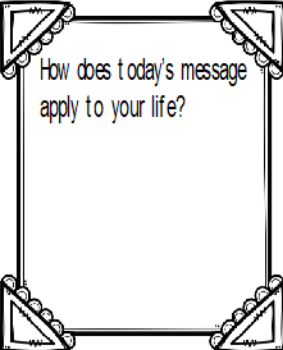
Write or draw something you heard in the sermon



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).

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