



WEST ERIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“Now the Midianites had sold him in Egypt
to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and
captain of the guard.”*

-Genesis 37:36

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, R. E. JONATHAN MOSER

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 134:1-3

Leader: Behold, bless the LORD, All *you* servants of the LORD, Who by night stand in the house of the LORD!

All: *Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, And bless the LORD.*

Leader: The LORD who made heaven and earth Bless you from Zion!

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: LEONI 6.6.8.4.

“Psalm 99”

“The God of Abraham Praise”

The LORD is King indeed! Let peoples quail and fear!
He sits above the cherubim; Let earth be moved!
The LORD in Zion rules, And over all is high;
O praise His great and dreadful name, The Holy One!

The pow-er of the King Delights in equity;
In Jacob You establish law And righteousness.
Exalt and celebrate The LORD, Who is our God,
And at His footstool worship Him, The Holy One!

For Moses was His priest, And Aaron, too, did serve,
And Samuel of them who called Upon His name.
The LORD received their cry; He spoke from out the cloud.
His testimonies they obeyed; They kept His laws.

O LORD our God, You heard, And answer gave to them;
You were a God that bore them up But judged their works!
Exalt the LORD our God! Bow to His holy hill!
Behold, He is the Holy One, The LORD our 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

Psalm 27:7-9, 11a

All: *Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me. When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek." Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation. Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.*

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 51:16-17

Leader: Hear the good news! "For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. ¹⁷The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart -- These, O God, You will not despise."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Psalm 121

TUNE: DUNDEE CM

Based on the Scottish Psalter, 1615.

I to the hills will lift my eyes. From whence shall come my aid?
My safety cometh from the LORD Who heav'n and earth has made.

Thy foot He'll not let slide, nor will He slumber that thee keeps.
Lo, He that keepeth Is-ra-el, He slumbers not nor sleeps.

The LORD thee keeps; the LORD thy shade On thy right hand doth stay;
The moon by night thee shall not smite, Nor yet the sun by day.

The LORD shall keep thee from all ill; He shall preserve thy soul.
The LORD as thou shalt go and come Forever keeps thee whole.

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 75:1-10

Leader: We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For Your wondrous works declare *that* Your name is near.

All: *“When I choose the proper time, I will judge uprightly.*

Leader: The earth and all its inhabitants are dissolved; I set up its pillars firmly. Selah

All: *‘I said to the boastful, ‘Do not deal boastfully,’ And to the wicked, ‘Do not lift up the horn.*

Leader: Do not lift up your horn on high; Do *not* speak with a stiff neck.’ “

All: *For exaltation comes neither from the east Nor from the west nor from the south.*

Leader: But God *is* the Judge: He puts down one, And exalts another.

All: *For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth Drain and drink down.*

Leader: But I will declare forever, I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

All: *‘All the horns of the wicked I will also cut off, But the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.’*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:1-19

“Now it came to pass, when Jesus finished commanding His twelve disciples, that He departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities. ²And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples ³and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” ⁴Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: ⁵“*The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.*” ⁶“And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” ⁷As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes

concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸"But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft *clothing* are in kings' houses. ⁹"But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰"For this is *he* of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' ¹¹"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³"For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. ¹⁴"And if you are willing to receive *it*, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵"He who has ears to hear, let him hear! ¹⁶"But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions, ¹⁷"and saying: 'We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not lament.' ¹⁸"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹"The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 19:1-20

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ²he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." ³And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." ⁵When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷Now the men were about twelve in all. ⁸And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God. ⁹But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus. ¹⁰And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. ¹¹Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them. ¹³Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." ¹⁴Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. ¹⁵And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" ¹⁶Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. ¹⁸And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. ¹⁹Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned *them* in the sight of all. And

they counted up the value of them, and *it* totaled fifty thousand *pieces* of silver. ²⁰So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: PARK STREET L,M.rep.

"Before Jehovah's Awesome Throne"

From Psalm 100. Isaac Watts, 1705, 1719.

1. Be - fore Je - ho - vah's awe - some throne, all na - tions, bow with
 2. His sov - ereign pow'r, with - out our aid, made us of dust and
 3. We are his peo - ple, we his care, our souls and all our
 4. We'll crowd your gates with thank - ful songs, high as the heav'ns our
 5. Wide as the world is your com - mand, vast as e - ter - ni -

sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is God a - lone, he can cre -
 formed us men; and when like wan - d'ring sheep we strayed, he brought us
 • mor - tal frame; what last - ing hon - ors shall we rear, al - might - y
 voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten thou - sand tongues, shall fill your
 ty your love; firm as a rock your truth must stand, when roll - ing

ate, and he de - stroy— he can cre - ate, and he de - stroy.
 to his fold a - gain— he brought us to his fold a - gain.
 • Mak - er, to your name?— al - might - y Mak - er, to your name?
 courts with sound - ing praise— shall fill your courts with sound - ing praise.
 years shall cease to move— when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

SERMON

Genesis 37:12-36

"Just Where is God?"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 12 Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.
- 13 And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding *the flock* in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." So he said to him, "Here I am." ¹
- 14 Then he said to him, "Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he went to Shechem.
- 15 Now a certain man found him, and there he was, wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, "What are you seeking?"
- 16 So he said, "I am seeking my brothers. Please tell me where they are feeding *their flocks*."
- 17 And the man said, "They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.' " So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.
- 18 Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him.
- 19 Then they said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is coming!
- 20 "Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, 'Some wild beast has devoured him.' We shall see what will become of his dreams!"
- 21 But Reuben heard *it*, and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, "Let us not kill him."
- 22 And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood, *but* cast him into this pit which *is* in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him" -- that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father.
- 23 So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph *of* his tunic, the tunic of *many* colors that *was* on him.
- 24 Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit *was* empty; *there was* no water in it.
- 25 And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry *them* down to Egypt.
- 26 So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit *is there* if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?
- 27 "Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he *is* our brother *and* our flesh." And his brothers listened.
- 28 Then Midianite traders passed by; so *the brothers* pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty *shekels* of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.
- 29 Then Reuben returned to the pit, and indeed Joseph *was* not in the pit; and he tore his clothes.
- 30 And he returned to his brothers and said, "The lad *is no more*; and I, where shall I go?"

- 31 So they took Joseph's tunic, killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the tunic in the blood.
- 32 Then they sent the tunic of *many* colors, and they brought *it* to their father and said, "We have found this. Do you know whether *it is* your son's tunic or not?"
- 33 And he recognized it and said, "*It is* my son's tunic. A wild beast has devoured him. Without doubt Joseph is torn to pieces."
- 34 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put sackcloth on his waist, and mourned for his son many days.
- 35 And all his sons and all his daughters arose to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted, and he said, "For I shall go down into the grave to my son in mourning." Thus his father wept for him.
- 36 Now the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh *and* captain of the guard.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

*Hymn of Response***

TUNE: EIN' FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.8.6.6.6.7.

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God***

Based on Psalm 46. Martin Luther, 1529

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able

CCLI # 174248

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: Garrett 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, May 6, at 8 a.m. – In person & ZOOM. Please read chapter 3 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. We will be welcoming a missionary family to share at our Sunday School hour next week.
- The ladies and girls of the church are invited to a bridal shower for Debbie Fiscus on Sunday, May 21 following the worship service. Please RSVP to Natalie Miller.
- The session is getting ready to send the church directory out. Please let us know if you would not like your information shared in a digital format.
- The session would like to form a youth committee to lead and organize middle/high school youth events in the future. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Miller.
- We will be having a spring cleanup/mulch day at church on Saturday, May 13, starting at 9 a.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper next week. Please take some time this week to prepare your hearts through prayer and the reading of Scripture.

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great;
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:

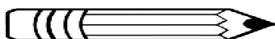
and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Announcements – cont.

- Please mark your calendars for our next church picnic to be held at McKean Park on Sunday, June 4, starting at 4:30 p.m. More details to follow.

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...

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book _____

Chapter: _____

Verse: _____

What are we learning about God from this passage?

Questions?

How does today's message apply to your life?

The most important thing you learned was:

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 Apostle's 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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