



WEST ERIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*“So Judah acknowledged them and said,
‘She has been more righteous than I...’”*

-Genesis 38:26a

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, MATT FAIR, R.E.

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalm 145:1-3

Leader: I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever.

All: *Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever.*

Leader: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

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: LYONS 10.10.11.11

“O Worship the King”

Based on Psalm 104. Robert Grant, 1833.

1. O wor - ship the King all - glo - rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly
2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the
3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told, Al - might - y, your
4. Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the

sing his pow'r and his love; our shield and De - fend - er, the
light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep
pow'r has found - ed of old; has 'stab - lished it fast by a
air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills; it de -

The musical score consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are placed between the vocal and bass lines.

An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 thun - der - clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 change - less de - cree, and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 scends to the plain; and sweet - ly dis - tils in the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
 our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

6. O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
 While angels delight to hymn you above,
 the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
 with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

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 139:1-4, 23-24

All: *"O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.." 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 13

TUNE: PASSION CHORALE 76.76.D

"O Sacred Now Wounded"

How long wilt Thou forget me? Shall it forever be?
O LORD, how long neglect me, And hide Thy face from me?
How long my soul take counsel, Thus sad in heart each day?
How long shall foes, exulting, Subject me to their sway?

O LORD, my God, consider, And hear my earnest cries;
Lest I in death should slumber, Enlighten Thou mine eyes:
Lest foes be heard exclaiming, "Against him we prevailed";
And they that vex my spirit Rejoice when I have failed.

But on Thy tender mercy I ever have relied;
With joy in Thy salvation My heart shall still confide.
And I with voice of singing Will praise the LORD alone,
Because to me His favor He has so largely shown.

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."

RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

CHAD AND SHAUNA RESSLER

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Psalm 114:1-8

Leader: When Israel went out of Egypt, The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

All: Judah became His sanctuary, And Israel His dominion.

Leader: The sea saw *it* and fled; Jordan turned back.

All: *The mountains skipped like rams, The little hills like lambs.*

Leader: What ails you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?

All: *O mountains, that you skipped like rams? O little hills, like lambs?*

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, At the presence of the God of Jacob,

All: *Who turned the rock into a pool of water, The flint into a fountain of waters.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:20-30

Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: ²¹“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. ²³And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.” ²⁵At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. ²⁶Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. ²⁷All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. ²⁸Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 19:21-41

When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.” ²²So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, but he himself stayed in Asia for a time. ²³And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way. ²⁴For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. ²⁵He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: “Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. ²⁶Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. ²⁷So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.” ²⁸Now when they heard *this*,

they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" ²⁹So the whole city was filled with confusion, and rushed into the theater with one accord, having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Paul's travel companions. ³⁰And when Paul wanted to go in to the people, the disciples would not allow him. ³¹Then some of the officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him pleading that he would not venture into the theater. ³²Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the assembly was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together. ³³And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defense to the people. ³⁴But when they found out that he was a Jew, all with one voice cried out for about two hours, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" ³⁵And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said: "Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Diana, and of the *image* which fell down from Zeus? ³⁶"Therefore, since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly. ³⁷"For you have brought these men here who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess. ³⁸"Therefore, if Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a case against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. ³⁹"But if you have any other inquiry to make, it shall be determined in the lawful assembly. ⁴⁰"For we are in danger of being called in question for today's uproar, there being no reason which we may give to account for this disorderly gathering." ⁴¹And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D

"The Church's One Foundation"

Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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.

SERMON

Genesis 38:1-30

"Judah and Tamar"

Pastor Marc Miller

- 1 It came to pass at that time that Judah departed from his brothers, and visited a certain Adullamite whose name *was* Hirah.
- 2 And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name *was* Shua, and he married her and went in to her.
- 3 So she conceived and bore a son, and he called his name Er.
- 4 She conceived again and bore a son, and she called his name Onan.
- 5 And she conceived yet again and bore a son, and called his name Shelah. He was at Chezib when she bore him.
- 6 Then Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name *was* Tamar.
- 7 But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD killed him.
- 8 And Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife and marry her, and raise up an heir to your brother."
- 9 But Onan knew that the heir would not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in to his brother's wife, that he emitted on the ground, lest he should give an heir to his brother.
- 10 And the thing which he did displeased the LORD; therefore He killed him also.

- 11 Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow in your father's house till my son Shelah is grown." For he said, "Lest he also die like his brothers." And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house.
- 12 Now in the process of time the daughter of Shua, Judah's wife, died; and Judah was comforted, and went up to his sheepshearers at Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.
- 13 And it was told Tamar, saying, "Look, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep."
- 14 So she took off her widow's garments, covered *herself* with a veil and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place which *was* on the way to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given to him as a wife.
- 15 When Judah saw her, he thought she *was* a harlot, because she had covered her face.
- 16 Then he turned to her by the way, and said, "Please let me come in to you"; for he did not know that she *was* his daughter-in-law. So she said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?"
- 17 And he said, "I will send a young goat from the flock." So she said, "Will you give *me* a pledge till you send *it*?"
- 18 Then he said, "What pledge shall I give you?" So she said, "Your signet and cord, and your staff that *is* in your hand." Then he gave *them* to her, and went in to her, and she conceived by him.
- 19 So she arose and went away, and laid aside her veil and put on the garments of her widowhood.
- 20 And Judah sent the young goat by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive *his* pledge from the woman's hand, but he did not find her.
- 21 Then he asked the men of that place, saying, "Where is the harlot who *was* openly by the roadside?" And they said, "There was no harlot in this *place*."
- 22 So he returned to Judah and said, "I cannot find her. Also, the men of the place said there was no harlot in this *place*."
- 23 Then Judah said, "Let her take *them* for herself, lest we be shamed; for I sent this young goat and you have not found her."
- 24 And it came to pass, about three months after, that Judah was told, saying, "Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot; furthermore she *is* with child by harlotry." So Judah said, "Bring her out and let her be burned!"
- 25 When she *was* brought out, she sent to her father-in-law, saying, "By the man to whom these belong, I *am* with child." And she said, "Please determine whose these *are* -- *the* signet and cord, and staff."
- 26 So Judah acknowledged *them* and said, "She has been more righteous than I, because I did not give her to Shelah my son." And he never knew her again.
- 27 Now it came to pass, at the time for giving birth, that behold, twins *were* in her womb.
- 28 And so it was, when she was giving birth, that *the one* put out *his* hand; and the midwife took a scarlet *thread* and bound it on his hand, saying, "This one came out first."

- 29 Then it happened, as he drew back his hand, that his brother came out unexpectedly; and she said, "How did you break through? *This breach be upon you!*" Therefore his name was called Perez.
- 30 Afterward his brother came out who had the scarlet *thread* on his hand. And his name was called Zerah.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn of Preparation next pg.*

TUNE: FOUNTAIN 5.6.8.6.6.6.8.6.

"There is a Fountain Filled with Blood"

William Cowper, 1771

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INVITATION

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

PASSING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

**THE WAFERS ARE NUT AND GLUTEN FREE.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Hymn of Response**

– Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

"Across the Lands"

Copyright © 2003 Thankyou Music

"You're the Word of God the Father From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory; Let the land and seas rejoice!

CHORUS

You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.
Yet You left the gaze of angels, Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry; With a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered That the guilty may go free!
With a shout You rose victorious, Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven, Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father, Interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home!"

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,

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 - sored church of God be saved to sin no more:

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 - sored church of God be saved to sin no more.

BENEDICTION*

* --Please stand if able
CCLI # 174248

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, June 3, at 8 a.m. – In person & ZOOM. Please read chapter 4 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.
- 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 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!
- 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.

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.**
 - We believe in the inspired and inerrant Word of God and 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 is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - We seek to be a church that is salt and light to the community around us.
- **We are Confessional.**
 - Ancient statements such as the Apos Creed and the Nicene Creed help us to confess certain basic and essential truths of the Christian faith.
 - Our confessional standards consist of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms
 - 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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