

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ephesians 1:3-6

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

People: For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Leader: In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

People: to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

HYMN OF INVOCATION

Father Long Before Creation

1. Father long before creation
Thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving,
Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

2. Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant
Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children
Must forever praise His name.

3. God's compassion is my story
Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing
Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us,
That His only Son He gave.

4. Loving Father now before Thee
We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing
'Til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory,
To our God and to the Lamb;

Giving glory, giving glory,
To our God and to the Lamb.

*Words from Chinese Hymn, Translated by Francis Jones
Chorus and music by Andrew Osenga
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Loving Company.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

The Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 2:1-8

¹ In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. ² And the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of the heart." Then I was very much afraid. ³ I said to the king, "Let the king live forever! Why should not my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" ⁴ Then the king said to me, "What are you requesting?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. ⁵ And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' graves, that I may rebuild it." ⁶ And the king said to me (the queen sitting beside him), "How long will you be gone, and when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me when I had given him a time. ⁷ And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah, ⁸ and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress of the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy." And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.

SERMON

"Rise Up... Praying Toward Renewal"

- Rev. Keith Peck

SONG OF CONFESSION

Lord I Need You

1. Lord I come, I confess;
Bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart;
You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,
Ev'ry hour I need You;
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God, how I need You.

2. Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more,
Where grace is found is where You are;
And where You are, Lord, I am free,
Holiness is Christ in me.
Chorus

(Bridge)

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You;
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Chorus 1x

You're my one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God how I need You.

*Authors: Christy Nockels / Daniel Carson / Jesse Reeves /
Kristian Stanfill / Matt Maher
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CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful Father, the psalmist declares, "Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth I desire besides you." We confess that our desire for this world and what it offers too often displaces our delight in and desire for you. We are busy and distracted, making little effort to dwell in your presence, listen to your voice, look on your beauty, pursue your glory. Forgive us, and for the glory of Christ who sought us that we might know you, please grant us grace to seek your face with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. In Jesus' mighty and merciful name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 1:7

In Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

1. Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name.
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has brought us nigh to God.

2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,
Pitied us when enemies.
Called us by His grace and taught us,
Gave us ears and gave us eyes.
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He presents our souls to God.

3. Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down.
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqueror's crown.
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God.

4. Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store,
When through grace in Christ our trust is,
Justice smiles and asks no more.
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God.

5. Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high.
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou art worthy, Lamb of God.

*Author: John Newton; Music by Laura Taylor
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BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

POSTLUDE

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