

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2022

CALL TO WORSHIP

Revelation 4:8, 11; 5:12-13

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

People: **Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.**

Leader: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

People: **To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

All Hail the King of Heaven

1. All hail the King of Heaven, Christ the Lord of all,
Whom thundering angels circle 'round ablaze with awe;
Let now the Hallelujah, of earth in glad refrain,
Ascend the throne, To him belongs immortal praise.

Chorus

All hail the king of heaven,
Creation join together,
Let endless praises crown his name
All hail the king of heaven.

2. All hail the Great Redeemer, who so humbly came
The lamb of our salvation, O for sinners slain
Let now a loud Hosanna resound from shore to shore
You nations say, "His kingdom reigns, forevermore!"
Chorus

3. Let praise of nations rise now as a symphony
To sound the endless wonders of his majesty
Let every heart adore him, the great and small the same
Through generations ever let his anthem ring!
Chorus x2

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:1-16

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³ You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. ⁴ The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. ⁵ So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. My sheep were scattered; ⁶ they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.

⁷ “Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸ As I live, declares the Lord God, surely because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild beasts, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰ Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep. No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.

¹¹ “For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

HYMN OF CONFESSION

By Thy Mercy

1. Jesus, Lord of life and glory,
Bend from heav'n Thy gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore Thee,
Friend of helpless sinners, hear.

2. From the depth of nature's blindness,
From the hard'ning pow'r of sin;
From all malice and unkindness,
From the pride that lurks within:

Chorus

By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord;
By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

3. When temptation sorely presses,
In the day of Satan's pow'r;
In our times of deep distresses,
In each dark and trying hour.

4. When the world around is
smiling,
In the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys, our hearts beguiling,
In the day of health and peace:
Chorus

5. In the weary hours of sickness,
In the times of grief and pain;
When we feel our mortal
weakness,
When all human help is vain;

6. In the solemn hour of dying,
In the awful judgment day;
May our souls, on Thee relying,
Find Thee still our Rock and Stay.
Chorus 2X

Authors: Words – James J. Cummins; Music – Greg Thompson © 2004 Greg Thompson Music.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious Lord, you have delivered us from sin's penalty. But we continue to feel its presence, and we struggle with its power. Even with new desires for what is right, we frequently discover our inability to carry it out, and we are again reminded of our sinful nature. Forgive us, we pray. And extend your government, that the peace of Christ may rule our hearts, so that we might serve and honor you in all things, as those who have received your great mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 6:37, 40

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ...
For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

In Tenderness

1. In tenderness He sought me
Weary and sick with sin,
And on His shoulders brought me
Back to His fold again,
While angels in His presence sang
Until the courts of heaven rang.

Chorus

O - o - oh the love that sought me
O - o - oh the blood that bought me
Oh the grace that brought me to the fold of God
Grace that brought me to the fold of God.

2. He died for me while I was sinning
Needy and poor and blind.
He whispered to assure me
"I've found thee; thou art Mine."
I never heard a sweeter voice.
It made my aching heart rejoice.
Chorus

3. Upon His grace I'll daily ponder
And sing anew His praise
With all adoring wonder
His blessings I'll retrace.
It seems as if eternal days
Are far too short to sing His praise.
Chorus x2

*Words public domain/Nate Garvey
Arrangement by Citizens
© 2011 Citizens. It's All About Jesus Music*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 5:1-5

¹So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ²shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

SERMON

“Shepherd of the Flock”
- Rev. Bob Davis

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN

He Will Hold Me Fast

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast.

Chorus

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

2. Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
Chorus

3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!
Chorus 2X

Author: Ada Habershon
Public Domain

HYMN OF RESPONSE

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

1. O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

2. O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;

*Authors: Words by George Matheson; Music by Christopher Miner
© 1997 Christopher Miner*

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!

POSTLUDE

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946
101 D Northwynd Cir., Lynchburg, VA 24502 • Website: www.mercypres.org