

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 119:81, 89-90, 105, 111, 132

Leader: My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word

People: Forever, O LORD, your word is fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations.

Leader: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

People: Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

All: Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your way with those who love your name.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF GATHERING

1. All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou, burning sun with golden beam;
Thou, silver moon with softer gleam,

Chorus

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

2. Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
Chorus

3. All the Redeemed washed by His blood
Come and rejoice in His great love.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Christ has defeated every sin;
Cast all your burdens now on Him.
Chorus

All Creatures of Our God and King

4. He shall return in pow'r to reign.
Heaven and earth will join to say:
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Then who shall fall on bended knee?
All creatures of our God and King!

Ending Chorus

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

*V. 1-2, St. Francis of Assisi,
translated by William Henry Draper
V. 3-4, Jonathan Baird and Ryan Baird
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NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 1:19-27

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Luke 7:48, 50

And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

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
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

SCRIPTURE READING

Ecclesiastes 4

¹ Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. ² And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. ³ But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun.

⁴ Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

⁵ The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh.

⁶ Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.

⁷ Again, I saw vanity under the sun: ⁸ one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. ¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! ¹¹ Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? ¹² And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

¹³ Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. ¹⁴ For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. ¹⁵ I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place. ¹⁶ There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

SERMON

"Ecclesiastes 4"

- Rev. Ben Spivey

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Oh Give Thanks!

1. We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

2. We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness we were slaves to sin and blame.
And we cried out in our labor to the only one who hears
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

Chorus

Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

3. We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died
Then He heard of our condition, and He called us by our names
And the God of glory took away our shame!
Chorus

4. We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams
But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees
And we cried like drunken sailors to the only one who hears
And the God of comfort took away our tears.
Chorus 2X
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

SONG OF RESPONSE

His Mercy is More

Chorus

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more,
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Chorus

2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Chorus

3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us,
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Chorus 2X
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Authors: Matt Boswell / Matt Papa © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs

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

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