

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hebrews 4:9-11

Leader: So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

People: **For whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.**

Leader: Let us therefore strive to enter that rest.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is My Father's World

1. This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world,
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet!
This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done:
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied,
And earth and heaven be one!
This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done:
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied,
And earth and heaven be one!

*Authors: Franklin Lawrence Sheppard / Maltbie D. Babcock
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¹ And he said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.” ² And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³ And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord God.’ ⁵ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions. Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. ⁷ And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.

⁸ “But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” ⁹ And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰ And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

¹ And he said to me, “Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.” ² So I opened my mouth, and he gave me this scroll to eat. ³ And he said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.

⁴ And he said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with my words to them. ⁵ For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— ⁶ not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. ⁷ But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. ⁸ Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. ⁹ Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.” ¹⁰ Moreover, he said to me, “Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. ¹¹ And go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear or refuse to hear.”

SONG OF CONFESSION Lord Have Mercy (For What We Have Done)

1. For what we have done and left undone,
 We fall on Your countless mercies.
 For sins that are known and those unknown,
 We call on Your name so holy.
 For envy and pride, for closing our eyes,
 For scorning our very neighbor;
 In thought, word, and deed, we've failed You, our King.
 How deeply we need a Savior.

Chorus

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy
 Lord have mercy on us
 Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy
 Lord have mercy on us

2. For what You have done, Your life of love;
 You perfectly lived, we praise You.
 Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes
 You finished the work God gave You.
 And there on the tree, a King among thieves,
 You bled for a world's betrayal.
 You loved to the end, our merciful friend,
 How pure and forever faithful.
 Chorus

Bridge

For hearts that are cold for seizing control,
 For scorning our very Maker;
 In thought, word, and deed, we've failed You, our King.
 How deeply we need a Savior.
 Chorus (2x)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our gracious God, we busy ourselves with many earthly things. We trust our endeavors to bring satisfaction, peace, security, and fulfillment. We search for joy in our accomplishments, and live in fear of our failures. We will not still ourselves to listen to your Word, nor stop so that we can pray. We find the way of grace difficult, and would rather do great things, than rest in what you have done. Forgive us, and lead us beside still waters. Restore our souls by your Spirit and because of your Son, we pray.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Matthew 11:28-30

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

Abide with Me

1. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.
2. Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.
3. I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.
4. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.
5. Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

*Authors: Words by Henry Lyte; Music by Justin Smith
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MISSIONS MINUTE

Missionaries Mercy Supports:

- Angela Bredeman* (Spain)
- Chris and Lori Gassler* (Cameroon)
- Kyra Marken* (Romania)
- Heath McLaughen (RUF Virginia Tech)
- Ben Spivey* (RUF Lynchburg)
- Ben Wontrop (England)
- Moore (South East Asia)

*within our congregation

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Children ages 4-5 are dismissed for Equip for Worship during the prayer. Visitors' children are welcome. Today's volunteers: Ben Spivey, Katherine Bosak, Stewart Orr

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 5

¹ Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴ and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵ And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth."

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice,

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

¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

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

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

SERMON

"Weep No More!"
- Rev. Bryan Rigg

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY SONG

Behold Our God

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice:

Chorus

Behold our God, seated on His throne! Come let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare! Come let us adore Him.

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?
Chorus

3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal humbled to the grave,
Jesus Savior risen now to reign!
Chorus

(Bridge)

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth!) (4X)
Chorus 2X

*Authors: Jonathan Baird / Meghan Baird / Ryan Baird / Stephen Altrogge
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SONG OF RESPONSE

Your Great Name We Praise

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise;
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes.
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;
Almighty, victorious,
Your great name we praise!

2. Unresting, unhasting and silent as light;
Not wanting or wasting, You rule us in might;
Your justice, like mountains high soaring above;
Your clouds which are fountains
Of goodness and love.

Chorus

Most Holy, Most glorious,
The Ancient of Days;
Almighty, victorious,
Your great name we praise!

3. All life comes from You, Lord,
To both great and small;
In all life You live, Lord, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish but quickly grow frail;
We wither and perish but You never fail!
Chorus

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light;
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight;
All praise we will render, oh Father of grace,
Till one day, in splendor, we see face to face!
Chorus 2X

*Original lyrics by Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867. Original
melody traditional Welsh hymn.
Alternate and new lyrics and new music by Bob Kauflin.
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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!**

POSTLUDE

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946

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