

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • APRIL 24, 2016 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 96:11-13

Pastor: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice!

People: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

Pastor: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth

People: He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in faithfulness.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONG OF PRAISE Let Us Adore

1. The heavens declare
The glory of God
And all of the world
Will join the praise
His wonders proclaim

2. The oceans and skies
Lift up their voice
And all He has made
Will rise to bless
The King of all kings

Let us adore Him
Let us adore Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord

3. Eternity's King
Is coming again
Though all of the earth
Will fade away
His truth will remain

Let us adore Him
Let us adore Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord
Come and behold Him
Bow down before Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord

Bridge
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.
You are worthy of all praise
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.
You are worthy of all praise

Let us adore Him
Let us adore Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord
Come and behold Him
Bow down before Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord
Jesus Christ is the Lord
Jesus Christ is the Lord

Author: Reuben Morgan
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READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 11:20-24, 28-30

²⁰ Then he began to denounce the cities where 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 done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you."

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."

CONFESSION OF SIN God Be Merciful To Me

1. God, be merciful to me
On Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou
Blot out my transgressions now
Wash me, make me pure within
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin

2. My transgressions I confess
Grief and guilt my soul oppress
I have sinned against Thy grace
And provoked Thee to Thy face
I confess Thy judgment just
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust

3. I am evil, born in sin
Thou desirest truth within
Thou alone my Savior art
Teach Thy wisdom to my heart
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow
Wash me whiter than the snow

4. Broken, humbled to the dust
By Thy wrath and judgment just
Let my contrite heart rejoice
And in gladness hear Thy voice
From my sins O hide Thy face
Blot them out in boundless grace

5. Gracious God, my heart renew
Make my spirit right and true
Cast me not away from Thee
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me
Thy salvation's joy impart
Steadfast make my willing heart

6. Sinners then shall learn from me
And return O God to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove
And my tongue shall sing Thy love
Touch my silent lips O Lord
And my mouth shall praise accord

Touch my silent lips O Lord
And my mouth shall praise accord

Author: [Richard Redhead](#);
Music: Christopher Miner
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SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Romans 7:24-25

"Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

SONG OF ASSURANCE He Will Swallow Up Death

1. The whole of nature groans with longing,
We ache for that promised glory
Still we rejoice because we know
Plans formed of old, faithful and sure

2. The whole of nature groans with longing;
We wait for that promised glory
Still we rejoice because we know
Our sorrow's end is coming

Chorus

He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces
He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces
We'll sing: "This is our God we've waited for and he saved us!"
He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces

3. Here in the darkness of our mourning;
We wait for the Light that's coming
And on that day we will return
With joy and gladness singing:

Chorus

Behold, your God. He will come and save you (6X)
Chorus 2X

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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING HYMN Lead On O King Eternal

(Children ages 4-5 are dismissed for "Equip for Worship" during the last stanza.
Visitors' children are welcome.)

1. Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
Hence-forth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home;
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

2. Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,
But deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

3. Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where'er Thy face appears
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

Authors: Ernest Warburton Shurtleff | Henry Thomas Smart
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SCRIPTURE READING Judges 19:1–4, 9–30, 21:25

¹In those days, when there was no king in Israel, a certain Levite was sojourning in the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim, who took to himself a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah. ² And his concubine was unfaithful to him, and she went away from him to her father's house at Bethlehem in Judah, and was there some four months. ³ Then her husband arose and went after her, to speak kindly to her and bring her back. He had with him his servant and a couple of donkeys. And she brought him into her father's house. And when the girl's father saw him, he came with joy to meet him. ⁴ And his father-in-law, the girl's father, made him stay, and he remained with him three days. So they ate and drank and spent the night there.

⁹ And when the man and his concubine and his servant rose up to depart, his father-in-law, the girl's father, said to him, "Behold, now the day has waned toward evening. Please, spend the night. Behold, the day draws to its close. Lodge here and let your heart be merry, and tomorrow you shall arise early in the morning for your journey, and go home."

¹⁰ But the man would not spend the night. He rose up and departed and arrived opposite Jebus (that is, Jerusalem). He had with him a couple of saddled donkeys, and his concubine was with him. ¹¹ When they were near Jebus, the day was nearly over, and the servant said to his master, "Come now, let us turn aside to this city of the Jebusites and spend the night in it."¹² And his master said to him, "We will not turn aside into the city of foreigners, who do not belong to the people of Israel, but we will pass on to Gibeah."¹³ And he said to his young man, "Come and let us draw near to one of these places and spend the night at Gibeah or at Ramah."¹⁴ So they passed on and went their way. And the sun went down on them near Gibeah, which belongs to Benjamin, ¹⁵ and they turned aside there, to go in and spend the night at Gibeah. And he went in and sat down in the open square of the city, for no one took them into his house to spend the night.

¹⁶ And behold, an old man was coming from his work in the field at evening. The man was from the hill country of Ephraim, and he was sojourning in Gibeah. The men of the place were Benjaminites. ¹⁷ And he lifted up his eyes and saw the traveler in the open square of the city. And the old man said, "Where are you going? And where do you come from?"¹⁸ And he said to him, "We are passing from Bethlehem in Judah to the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim, from which I come. I went to Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to the house of the Lord, but no one has taken me into his house."¹⁹ We have straw and feed for our donkeys, with bread and wine for me and your female servant and the young man with your servants. There is no lack of anything."²⁰ And the old man said, "Peace be to you; I will care for all your wants. Only, do not spend the night in the square."²¹ So he brought him into his house and gave the donkeys feed. And they washed their feet, and ate and drank.

²² As they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, worthless fellows, surrounded the house, beating on the door. And they said to the old man, the master of the house, "Bring out the man who came into your house, that we may know him."²³ And the man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, "No, my brothers, do not act so wickedly; since this man has come into my house, do not do this vile thing."²⁴ Behold, here are my virgin daughter and his concubine. Let me bring them out now. Violate them and do with them what seems good to you, but against this man do not do this outrageous thing."²⁵ But the men would not listen to him. So the man seized his concubine and made her go out to them. And they knew her and abused her all night until the morning. And as the dawn began to break, they let her go. ²⁶ And as morning appeared, the woman came and fell down at the door of the man's house where her master was, until it was light.

²⁷ And her master rose up in the morning, and when he opened the doors of the house and went out to go on his way, behold, there was his concubine lying at the door of the house, with her hands on the threshold. ²⁸ He said to her, "Get up, let us be going."

But there was no answer. Then he put her on the donkey, and the man rose up and went away to his home. ²⁹ And when he entered his house, he took a knife, and taking hold of his concubine he divided her, limb by limb, into twelve pieces, and sent her throughout all the territory of Israel. ³⁰ And all who saw it said, "Such a thing has never happened or been seen from the day that the people of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt until this day; consider it, take counsel, and speak."

²⁵ In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

SERMON "Honestly Examining Dark Realities"
- Rev. Rob Edwards

SONG OF RESPONSE Let Your Kingdom Come

*1. Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts.
May Jesus Christ be known wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown.
The cross has saved us, so we pray, "Your kingdom come."*

Chorus

*Let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done!
So that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done.*

Let Your kingdom come!

*2. Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak.
Perform Your wondrous deeds through those who are weak.
Lord, use us as You want, whatever the test.
By grace, we'll preach Your Gospel till our dying breath.
Chorus 2X*

Let Your kingdom come! Let Your kingdom come!

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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Mercy
Presbyterian Church

*"Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
Once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy."
I Peter 2:10*

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)