

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • MAY 15, 2016 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 44:6, 8, 22–23

Pastor: Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.”

People: “Fear not, nor be afraid. Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Pastor: “I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like the mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.”

People: Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it; shout, O depths of the earth; break forth into singing, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it!

Pastor: For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, and will be glorified in Israel.

SONG OF PRAISE Come Christians Join to Sing

Chorus

Rejoice and sing
to God, our Lord, our King.
Lift up and praise His name,
Alleluia, alleluia.

1. Come Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King:
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all with heart and voice
Before His throne rejoice.
Praise is His gracious choice:
Alleluia! Amen!

2. Come lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky:
Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend;
To us He'll condescend.
His love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!
Chorus
3. Praise yet our Christ again,
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore,
Alleluia! Amen!
Chorus (twice)

Author: Christian Henry Bateman; *Arranged by:*
Orangewood Presbyterian Church
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PRAYER OF INVOCATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Ephesians 5:22–33

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

HYMN OF CONFESSION 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, oft as I 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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CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord Jesus, you call us to abide in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit apart from the vine, neither can we apart from you. And yet, the fruit in our lives testifies that we have turned away. Forgive our faithlessness. And comfort us with your abiding faithfulness. For you have taken us in your hand, and none can snatch us away. Assure us of your love, as you assured Peter after he denied you. Receive us, like him, as we reaffirm our love for you. And by your Spirit, strengthen us to heed your call, “Follow me.”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Jeremiah 50:34

“Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name. He will surely plead their cause and give rest to the earth.”

HYMN OF ASSURANCE The Sands of Time are Sinking

1. The sands of time are sinking,
The dawn of heaven breaks;
The summer morn I've sighed for -
The fair, sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark had been the midnight
But dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land.

2. The king there in His beauty,
Without a veil is seen:
It were a well-spent journey,
Though seven deaths lay between:
The Lamb with His fair army,
Doth on Mount Zion stand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land

3. O Christ, He is the fountain,
The deep, sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted
More deep I'll drink above:
There to an ocean fullness
His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land.

4. The bride eyes not her garment,
But her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory
But on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth
But on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory
Of Emmanuel's land.

5. O I am my Beloved's
And my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner
Into His house of wine
I stand upon His merit -
I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land
In Emmanuel's land
In Emmanuel's land

Authors: Words: Anne Cousin (based on Samuel Rutherford's letters). *Music:* traditional folk tune (arr. Phillip Palmertree)
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING Great is Thy Faithfulness

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

1. Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Chorus
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

2. Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love
Chorus

3. Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside
Chorus

SCRIPTURE READING Ruth 3:1-18

¹ Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?" ² Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.

³ Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴ But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." ⁵ And she replied, "All that you say I will do."

⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. ⁷ And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. ⁸ At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! ⁹ He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings^[a] over your servant, for you are a redeemer." ¹⁰ And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹² And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³ Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning."

¹⁴ So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." ¹⁵ And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. ¹⁶ And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, ¹⁷ saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" ¹⁸ She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

SERMON "Defining the Relationship with the Redeemer"
- Rev. Rob Edwards

HYMN OF RESPONSE Dearly We're Bought

1. Come raise your thankful voice,
ye souls redeemed with blood;
leave earth and all its toys,
and mix no more with mud.

Chorus

Dearly we're bought, highly esteemed;
Redeemed with Jesus' blood redeemed.
Dearly we're bought, highly esteemed;
Redeemed with Jesus' blood,
Redeemed.

2. With heart, and soul, and mind,
exalt redeeming love;
Leave wordly cares behind,
and set your minds above.

3. Lift up your ravished eyes,
And view the glory given;
All lower things despised,
Ye citizens of heaven.

Chorus

4. Be to this world as dead,
Alive to that to come
Our life in Christ is hid,
who soon shall call us home.

Dearly we're bought, highly esteemed;
Redeemed with Jesus' blood redeemed. (3x)

Dearly we're bought, highly esteemed;
Redeemed with Jesus' blood,
Redeemed.
Redeemed

Author: Joseph Hart (1712-1768)

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



*"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*

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