

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • MAY 29, 2016 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Taken from Psalm 34:10-12, 22

*Pastor: The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the people*

*People: The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations*

*Pastor: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage*

*People: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE Come Thou Fount

*1. Come Thou fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of God's unchanging love*

*2. Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Hither by Thy help I'm come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wandering from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious Blood*

*3. Oh to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy grace now like a fetter  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart O take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above*

*Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart O take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above*

*Authors: Robert Robinson and John Wyeth;  
Music by Ashael Nettleton  
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NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 2:22-36

<sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One see corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup> Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

"The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

<sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies your footstool.'"

<sup>36</sup> Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

CONFESSION OF SIN (adapted from "The Valley of Vision")

*O thou great I AM.  
A mighty God, who, amidst the lapse of worlds, and the revolutions of empires,  
feels no variableness, but is glorious in immortality. May I rejoice that, while men  
die, the Lord lives; that, while all creatures are broken reeds, empty cisterns, fading  
flowers, withering grass, he is the Rock of Ages, the Fountain of living  
waters. Turn my heart from vanity, from dissatisfactions, from uncertainties of the  
present state, to an eternal interest in Christ. Let me remember that life is short  
and unforeseen, and is only an opportunity for usefulness; Lord I ask that you  
would give me a great desire to redeem the time, to awake at every call to charity  
and piety, so that I may feed the hungry, clothe the naked, instruct the ignorant,  
reclaim the vicious, forgive the offender, diffuse the gospel, and show neighbourly  
love to all.*

SONG OF ASSURANCE Before the Throne of God Above

*1. Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heav'n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart*

*2. When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me*

*3. Behold Him there the Risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless Righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am  
The King of Glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God*

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My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God*

*Authors: Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft;  
Music by Vikki Cook  
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

## COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERING      **Isaiah 43**

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

*1. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you  
And the waves will not overcome you  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you  
I have called you by name, you are mine*

#### **Chorus**

*Men: For I am the Lord your God (Women echo: I am the Lord your God)*

*I am the Lord your God*

*I am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior*

*Men: For I am the Lord your God (Women echo: I am the Lord your God)*

*I am the Lord your God*

*I am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior*

*Men: I am the Lord (Women: Do not Fear)*

*Men: I am the Lord (Women: Do not Fear)*

*Men: I am the Lord (Women: Do not Fear)*

*Men: I am the Lord (Women: Do not Fear)*

*2. When you walk through the fire, you'll not be burned*

*And the flames will not consume you*

*Do not fear, for I have redeemed you*

*I have called you by name, you are mine*

*Chorus*

*I am the Lord.*

*Author Unknown, Public Domain*

### SCRIPTURE READING      **Ruth 4:11-22**

<sup>11</sup> Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, <sup>12</sup> and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman."

<sup>13</sup> So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son. <sup>14</sup> Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!" <sup>15</sup> He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." <sup>16</sup> Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. <sup>17</sup> And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

<sup>18</sup> Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, <sup>19</sup> Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab, <sup>20</sup> Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, <sup>21</sup> Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, <sup>22</sup> Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

## SERMON

### "Prevailing Plans of the Lord"

- Rev. Bryan Rigg

## SONG OF RESPONSE

### Father Long Before Creation

*1. Father long before creation  
Thou hadst chosen us in love,  
And that love so deep, so moving,  
Draws us close to Christ above.  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us  
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.*

*2. Though the world may change its fashion,  
Yet our God is e'er the same;  
His compassion and His covenant  
Through all ages will remain.  
God's own children, God's own children  
Must forever Praise His name.*

*3. God's compassion is my story  
Is my boasting all the day;  
Mercy free and never failing  
Moves my will, directs my way.  
God so loved us, God so loved us,  
That His only Son He gave.*

*4. Loving Father now before Thee  
We will ever praise Thy love,  
And our songs will sound unceasing  
'Til we reach our home above,  
Giving glory, Giving glory,  
To our God and to the Lamb;*

*Giving glory, Giving glory,  
To our God and to the Lamb*

*Words from Chinese Hymn,  
Translated by Francis Jones  
Chorus and music by Andrew Osenga  
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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

*"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)

**MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH      CCLI LICENSE #11042946**

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