

**MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 18, 2016 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Deuteronomy 6:4-6; Psalm 100:2, 5

Pastor: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

People: **You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.**

Pastor: These words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

People: **Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!**

Pastor: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN 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 (x2)*

*Author: Christian Henry Bateman;
Arranged by: Orangewood Presbyterian Church
© Public Domain*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. ³³For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

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
© 2007 Justin Smith Music.*

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN John 15:4-5

⁴"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

ASSURANCE OF PARDON John 6:28-29

Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

SONG OF ASSURANCE Arise, My Soul, Arise

*1. Arise my soul arise
Shake off your guilty fears
The bleeding sacrifice
On my behalf appears
Before the throne my surety stands
Before the throne my surety stands
My name is written on His hands*

Chorus

*Arise (Arise), Arise (Arise)
Arise, Arise my soul arise
Arise (Arise), Arise (Arise)
Arise, Arise my soul arise
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.*

*2. He ever lives above
For me to intercede
His all redeeming love
His precious blood to plead
His blood atoned for every race
His blood atoned for every race
And sprinkles now the throne of grace
Chorus*

*3. Five bleeding wounds He bears
Received on Calvary
They pour effectual prayers
They strongly plead for me
Forgive him, O forgive they cry
Forgive him, O forgive they cry
Don't let that ransomed sinner die!
Chorus*

*4. My God is reconciled
His pardoning voice I hear
He owns me for His child
I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh
With confidence I now draw nigh
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry
Chorus (x2)*

*Authors: Words by Charles Wesley; Music by Kevin Twit
© Public Domain*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING

He Will Hold Me Fast

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

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
'Til our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!
Chorus (x2)

Author: Ada Habershon
© Public Domain

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 2:1-11

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.
The New Commandment

⁷Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. ¹⁰Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

SERMON

"Collaborating Our Claim to Know God"

- Rev. Rob Edwards

SONG OF RESPONSE

Psalm 27 (The Lord is My Light)

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation
The Lord is my light and my salvation
The Lord is my light and my salvation
Whom shall I fear?

Chorus:

Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life,
Whom shall I fear?

2. In the time of trouble, he shall hide me, oh
In the time of trouble, he shall hide me
In the time of trouble, he shall hide me
Whom shall I fear?

Chorus

3. Wait on the Lord and be of good courage, oh
Wait on the Lord and be of good courage
Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
He shall strengthen thy heart.
Chorus

The Lord is the strength
The Lord is the strength
The Lord is the strength of my life
Whom shall I fear?

Author: Lillian Bouknight
© 1981

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

P.O. Box 2564, Forest, VA 24551 • Website: www.mercypres.org
Voicemail: (434) 237-1370 • Email: office@mercypres.org
Rob Edwards, Pastor • 434-386-7045 (m) • rob@mercypres.org

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)