

**MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Hosea 1:10; 2:1, 23

Minister: In the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Congregation: **Say to your brothers, "You are my people," and to your sisters, "You have received mercy."**

Minister: And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, "You are my people."

All: **And he shall say, "You are my God."**

HYMN OF PRAISE 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;

Words from Chinese Hymn,
Translated by Francis Jones
Chorus and music by Andrew Osenga
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PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Westminster Shorter Catechism
Questions #33-35**

Q. 33. What is justification?

A. Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Q. 34. What is adoption?

A. Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God.

Q. 35. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

SONG OF PRAISE How Deep the Father's Love For Us

1. How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure!
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory!

2. Behold the Man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom!

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Author: Words and music by Stuart Townend
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SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN Romans 8:13-15

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

ASSURANCE OF PARDON John 1:29

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

SONG OF ASSURANCE The Lamb has Overcome

1. The Lamb has overcome 4. The table now is spread
The Lamb has overcome The table now is spread
The battle's done and the victory is won This wine and bread
The Lamb has overcome Broken body and blood shed
The table now is spread

2. No grave could hold him down 5. The day is drawing near
No grave could hold him down The day is drawing near
Up from the ground, He shall appear
"He is risen!" was the sound And will wipe away each tear
No grave could hold him down The day is drawing near

3. At God's right hand is he
At God's right hand is he
Our Perfect Plea as he lives to intercede
At God's right hand is he

Chorus 2X
6. The Lamb has overcome
The Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
The Lamb has overcome

Chorus
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Glory be unto his name (2x)

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Words & Music: Luke Morton, November 2011

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION Blessed Are the Sons of God

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

1. Blessed are the sons of God,
They are bought with Christ's own blood;
They are ransomed from the grave,
Life eternal they shall have:

3. They are lights upon the earth,
Children of a heav'nly birth;
One with God, with Jesus one,
Glory is in them begun:

Chorus
With them numbered may we be,
Here and in eternity.

2. They are justified by grace,
They enjoy the Saviour's peace;
All their sins are washed away,
They shall stand in God's great day:
Chorus

SCRIPTURE READING I John 2:29-3:10

²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. ¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

SERMON **“Sharing the Father’s Likeness”**
- Rev. Rob Edwards

HYMN OF RESPONSE 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. The Father hears Him pray,
His dear anointed One;
He cannot turn away,
the presence of His Son;
His Spirit answers to the blood,
His Spirit answers to the blood,
And tells me I am born of God.*

*5. 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*

*Authors: Words by Charles Wesley;
Music by Kevin Twit
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*“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*

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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