

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • MARCH 18, 2018 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 103: 1, 8, 10-13, 22

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

People: **The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Pastor: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

People: **As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

Pastor: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

All: **Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF PRAISE 10,000 Reasons

Chorus

*Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul, worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name*

*1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
Chorus*

*2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find
Chorus*

*3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore
Chorus 2X*

*I'll worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name.*

Authors: Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman © 2011 Thankyou Music

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵ Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. ⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

HYMN OF CONFESSION Be Still My Soul

*1. Be still, my soul! The Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In every change, He faithful will remain
Be still, my soul! Thy best, thy heavenly Friend
Thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end*

*2. Be still, my soul! Thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still, my soul! The waves and winds still know
His voice Who ruled them while He dwelt below*

*3. Be still, my soul! When dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shalt thou better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears.
Be still, my soul! Thy Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away.*

*4. Be still, my soul! The hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored
Be still, my soul! When change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

Authors: Jane Laurie Borthwick | Jean Sibelius | Katharina Amalia von Schlegel
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CONFESSION OF SIN

God our Father, in our distress, we confess that we doubt your loving care. We are quickly discouraged in the face of difficulties, and take them as tokens of your displeasure, forgetting your commitment to conform us to the image of your Son. We conclude that you have abandoned us, when instead you intend to increase our faith, that we might draw near, calling out, "Abba, Father!" Draw our attention again to Jesus, we pray, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame. Remind us, in all we endure, that we are heirs with Christ, provided that we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Revelation 3:19-20

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE And Can it Be

<i>1. And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood! Died He for me who caused His pain! For me who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, That Thou, my God, should die for me?</i>	<i>3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night Thine eye diffused a quickening ray I woke, the dungeon flamed with light My chains fell off, my heart was free I rose, went forth, and followed Thee! Chorus</i>
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Chorus

*Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, should die for me?*

*2. He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love
And bled for Adam's helpless race
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me!
Chorus*

*4. No condemnation now I dread
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine
Alive in Him, my living head
And clothed in righteousness divine
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown,
Through Christ my own
Chorus*

Authors: Words by Charles Wesley,
Music by Scott Roley
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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

<i>Jemma Marie Battaglia</i>	<i>Olivia Hope Leitch</i>
<i>Amelia Michelle Boyle</i>	<i>Jesse Clarence Olenik</i>
<i>Lila Grace Forshey</i>	<i>Virginia Grey Robinson</i>
<i>Miles Benjamin Forshey</i>	

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION **Abide With Me**

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

*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, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.*

*3. 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.*

*4. 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.*

SCRIPTURE READING **Hebrews 12:1-17**

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD **Romans 10:17**

Pastor: Faith comes from hearing

People: And hearing through the word of Christ.

SERMON **"Does Discipline Do You Any Good?" - Rev. Rob Edwards**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**

*1. O Love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul in Thee
I give Thee back the life I owe
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer fuller be*

*2. O Light that follow'st all my way
I yield my flickering torch to Thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter fairer be*

*3. O Joy that seekest me through pain
I cannot close my heart to Thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be*

*4. O Cross that liftest up my head
I dare not ask to fly from thee
I lay in dust life's glory dead
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be*

*Authors: Words by George Matheson;
Music by Christopher Miner
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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

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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)