

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Ephesians 1:13-14

*Leader:* In him also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

*People:* **Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.**

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 Thy redeeming 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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OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 37:1-14

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

CONFESSION OF SIN Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12

*Leader:* Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.

*People:* **According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

*Leader:* Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

*People:* **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

*Leader:* Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

*People:* **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

HYMN OF CONFESSION

1. God, be merciful to me  
On Thy grace I rest my plea  
Plenteous in compassion Thou  
Blot out my transgressions now  
Wash me, make me pure within  
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin

2. My transgressions I confess  
Grief and guilt my soul oppress  
I have sinned against Thy grace  
And provoked Thee to Thy face  
I confess Thy judgment just  
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust

God Be Merciful to Me

3. Gracious God, my heart renew  
Make my spirit right and true  
Cast me not away from Thee  
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me  
Thy salvation's joy impart  
Steadfast make my willing heart

4. Sinners then shall learn from me  
And return O God to Thee  
Savior all my guilt remove  
And my tongue shall sing Thy love  
Touch my silent lips O Lord  
And my mouth shall praise accord  
Touch my silent lips O Lord  
And my mouth shall praise accord

*Author:* Richard Redhead; *Music:* Christopher Miner © 1997 Christopher Miner Music

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Galatians 3:13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—<sup>14</sup> so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE All Must Be Well

1. Through the love of God our Savior, All will be well  
Free and changeless is His favor, All is well  
Precious is the blood that healed us  
Perfect is the grace that sealed us  
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us. All must be well

2. Though we pass through tribulation, All will be well  
Ours is such a full salvation, All is well  
Happy still in God confiding  
Fruitful if in Christ abiding  
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding. All must be well

3. We expect a bright tomorrow; All will be well  
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, All is well  
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,  
Yes in living or in dying, All must be well.  
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,  
Yes in living or in dying, All must be well.

*Words by* Mary Bowley-Peters alt by Matthew S. Smith, *Music by* Matthew S. Smith.  
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

## COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### HYMN OF PREPARATION      **There is a Hope**

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

*1. There is a hope that burns within my heart,  
That gives me strength for ev'ry passing day;  
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meager part, yet drives all doubt away.  
I stand in Christ with sins forgiv'n and Christ in me the hope of heav'n.  
My highest calling, and my deepest joy, to make His will my home*

*2. There is a hope that lifts my weary head; A consolation, strong against despair  
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit, I find the Savior there.  
Through present suff'rings, future's fear, He whispers courage in my ear;  
For I am safe in everlasting arms, and they will lead me home.*

*3. There is a hope that stands the test of time,  
That lifts my eyes beyond the beck'ning grave  
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine, when I behold His face.  
When suff'rings cease, and sorrows die, and ev'ry longing satisfied;  
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul, for I am truly home.*

*When suff'rings cease, and sorrows die, and ev'ry longing satisfied;  
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul, for I am truly home.*

*Authors: Mark Edwards | Stuart Townend © 2007 Thankyou Music*

## SCRIPTURE READING      **I Peter 1:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:  
*May grace and peace be multiplied to you.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup> Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, <sup>11</sup> inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. <sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

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

*Pastor: Faith comes from hearing*

**People: And hearing through the word of Christ.**

### SERMON      **"The Spirit of Might"** **- Rev. Rob Edwards**

## HYMN OF RESPONSE      **Amazing Grace**

*1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now am found  
Was blind but now I see*

*2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed*

*3. Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home*

*4. The Lord has promised good to me  
His Word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures*

*Authors: Edwin Othello Excell | John Newton | John P. Rees  
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## BENEDICTION      **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.*

## 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**

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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)