

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • JANUARY 27, 2019 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 40:3-5

Minister: *A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord."*

People: **"Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."**

Minister: *"Every valley shall be lifted up."*

People: **"And every mountain and hill be made low."**

Minister: *"The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."*

People: **"And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together."**

Minister: *"For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE Behold Our God/Holy Holy Holy

*Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.*

Chorus

*Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare, Come let us adore Him!*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Men: You will reign forever
Women echo: (Let Your glory fill the earth)
(REPEAT 4X)
Chorus 2X*

*Words by Reginald Heber; Music by John Dykes
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Westminster Confession 5.4

The almighty power, unsearchable wisdom, and infinite goodness of God so far manifest themselves in His providence, that it extendeth itself even to the first fall, and all other sins of angels and men; and that not by a bare permission, but such as hath joined with it a most wise and powerful bounding, and otherwise ordering, and governing of them, in a manifold dispensation, to His own holy ends; yet so, as the sinfulness thereof proceedeth only from the creature, and not from God, who, being most holy and righteous, neither is nor can be the author or approver of sin.

HYMN OF CONFESSION He Will Hold Me Fast

*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
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!
Chorus 2X*

*Author: Ada Habershon
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CONFESSION OF SIN Psalm 38:1-8

¹ O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath! ² For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me. ³ There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. ⁴ For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me. ⁵ My wounds stink and fester because of my foolishness, ⁶ I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. ⁷ For my sides are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. ⁸ I am feeble and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Psalm 40:1-2, 11

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE It Is Well With My Soul

*1. When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul*

Chorus

*It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well, with my soul*

*2. Tho' Satan should buffet
Tho' trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul
Chorus*

*3. My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul
Chorus*

*4. And Lord haste the day
When the faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend
Even so it is well with my soul
Chorus 2X*

*Authors: Horatio Gates Spafford | Philip Paul Bliss
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

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

*1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love,
My deep and boundless peace*

*To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me*

*2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed*

*To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won
And I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me*

*3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave*

*To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released
I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me*

*4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne*

*To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete
Still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me*

*Authors: Jonny Robinson / Michael Farren / Rich
Thompson
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SCRIPTURE READING James 1:12-18

¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD Romans 10:17

Pastor: Faith comes from hearing

People: And hearing through the word of Christ.

SERMON "The Three Stages of Plant-Life" - Rev. Bryan Rigg

HYMN OF RESPONSE The Sands Of Time Are Sinking

*1. The sands of time are sinking,
The dawn of heaven breaks;
The summer morn I've sighed for -
The fair, sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark had been the midnight
But dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land.*

*2. The king there in His beauty,
Without a veil is seen:
It were a well-spent journey,
Though seven deaths lay between:
The Lamb with His fair army,
Doth on Mount Zion stand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land*

*3. O Christ, He is the fountain,
The deep, sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted
More deep I'll drink above:
There to an ocean fullness
His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land.*

*4. The bride eyes not her garment,
But her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory
But on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth
But on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory
Of Emmanuel's land.*

*5. O I am my Beloved's
And my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner
Into His house of wine
I stand upon His merit -
I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land
In Emmanuel's land
In Emmanuel's land*

*Authors: Words: Anne Cousin (based on Samuel
Rutherford's letters). Music: traditional folk tune
(arr. Phillip Palmertree)
©2001 Philip Palmertree Music.*

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)