

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 10, 2019 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 135:3-6

Pastor: Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing praise to His Name, for that is pleasant.

People: For the LORD has chosen Jacob to be his own, Israel to be His treasured possession.

Pastor: I know that the LORD is great, that our LORD is greater than all gods.

People: The LORD does whatever pleases Him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE Behold Our God

1. 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.

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?
Chorus

3. Who has felt the nails upon His hand
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal humbled to the grave,
Jesus Savior risen now to reign.
Chorus

(Bridge)
You will reign forever (Let Your glory fill the earth) (Repeat 2X)
You will reign forever (Let Your glory fill)

Authors: Jonathan Baird / Meghan Baird / Ryan Baird / Stephen Altrogge
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NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:23-31

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

"Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'—

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

HYMN OF CONFESSION

1. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Holy His will abideth.
I will be still whate'er He does,
And follow where He guideth.
He is my God,
Though dark my road.
He holds me that I shall not fall
Wherefore to Him I leave it all

2. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
He never will deceive me
He leads me by the proper path,
I know He will not leave me
I take, content,
What He hath sent
His hand can turn my griefs away
And patiently I wait His day

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, you sit peacefully, joyfully and sovereignly on your throne. Forgive us for grumbling over the wisdom of your providence in our lives. We confess doubting hearts that question the goodness, love and faithfulness of your heart that orders our days. Forgive us for chronic unbelief that mistrusts your working in our sorrows, waiting and challenging stories. As you welcome us to lament before you, may your Spirit free our hearts to do so with our gaze fixed on your Son, seated at your right hand, who rules over all things for the sake of your church, your people. In Jesus' mighty and merciful name, Amen.

Whate'er My God Ordains is Right

3. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Though now this cup in drinking
May bitter seem to my faint heart,
I take it all unshrinking
My God is true,
Each morn anew
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart
And pain and sorrow shall depart

4. Whate'er my God ordains is right,
Here shall my stand be taken
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
Yet I am not forsaken
My Father's care
Is round me there
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to Him I leave it all
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to Him I leave it all

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON Ephesians 1:4-7

⁴He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

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.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Father, Long Before Creation

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;
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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COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Ancient of Days

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

1. Though the nations rage
Kingdoms rise and fall,
There is still one King
Reigning over all.
So I will not fear
For this truth remains.
That my God, is the Ancient of Days.

O His love is sure,
And He knows my name.
For my God is the Ancient of Days.
Chorus

3. Though I may not see
What the future brings,
I will watch and wait
For the Saviour king.
Then my joy complete,
Standing face to face,
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

For my God is the Ancient of Days.

*Authors: Jesse Reeves / Jonny Robinson /
Michael Farren / Rich Thompson
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War, Integrity's Alleluia! Music*

Chorus

None above Him, none before Him,
All of time in His hands,
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power all the glory,
I will trust in His name.
For my God is the Ancient of days.

2. Though the dread of night
Overwhelms my soul,
He is here with me,
I am not alone.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 12:1-17, 20-24

¹ About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. ² He killed James the brother of John with the sword, ³ and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. ⁴ And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. ⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

⁶ Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. ⁷ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. ⁸ And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." ⁹ And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. ¹¹ When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

¹² When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. ¹³ And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴ Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. ¹⁵ They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" ¹⁶ But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. ¹⁷ But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how

the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place.

²⁰ Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. ²¹ On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. ²² And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" ²³ Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

²⁴ But the word of God increased and multiplied.

SERMON

"Providence and Prayer"

- Rev. Keith Peck

HYMN OF RESPONSE

How Great Thou Art

1. Oh Lord My God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus

Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee. How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee. How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

2. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin. Chorus

3. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art. Chorus 2X

*Authors: Stuart Wesley Keene Hine
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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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Bryan Rigg, Associate Pastor • 434-907-0711 (m) • bryan@mercypres.org
P.O. Box 2564, Forest, VA 24551 • Website: www.mercypres.org
Voicemail: (434) 237-1370 • Emilee Ellsworth (Admin): emilee@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)