

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 1, 2019 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Romans 3:21-24,26

Leader: Now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the law and the prophets bear witness to it.

Congregation: The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Leader: For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by his grace as a gift.

Congregation: This was to show his righteousness so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

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 God's unchanging 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
Public Domain*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 53

¹ The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. ² God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³ They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. ⁴ Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God? ⁵ There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror! For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you; you put them to shame, for God has rejected them. ⁶ Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

HYMN OF PREPARATION Come Thou Long Expected Savior

(Children ages 4-5 are dismissed for a children's Bible lesson during the last stanza.
Visitors' children are welcome.)

1. Come Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the saints Thou art.
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

2. Joy to those who long to see thee,
Dayspring from on high appear.
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
Of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing,
News, Glad tidings of a birth.
"Go to him, your praises bringing,
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

3. Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end.
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall.
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.

4. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King.
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone.
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

SCRIPTURE READING Ecclesiastes 2:1-17

¹ I said in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself." But behold, this also was vanity. ² I said of laughter, "It is mad," and of pleasure, "What use is it?" ³ I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. ⁴ I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. ⁵ I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. ⁶ I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. ⁷ I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. ⁸ I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man.

⁹ So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. ¹⁰ And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. ¹¹ Then I considered all that my hands had done and

the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

¹² So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. ¹³ Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. ¹⁴ The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. ¹⁵ Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. ¹⁶ For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! ¹⁷ So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.

SERMON "The Need of a Savior"
-Rev. Bryan Rigg

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PRAISE Ancient of Days

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.

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.

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.
Chorus

For my God is the Ancient of Days.

*Authors: Jesse Reeves / Jonny Robinson /
Michael Farren / Rich Thompson
© 2018 CityAlight Music, Farren Love And
War, Integrity's Alleluia! Music*

CONFESSION OF SIN

God our Father, we experience the emptiness of trying to find satisfaction in this world and the vanity of seeking fulfillment in created things. We parade around as those who are ailing yet self-sufficient rather than acknowledging that we are dead and powerless. We know that nothing good dwells in our flesh, no power to save can come from within. Humble our proud and deceitful hearts that we might earnestly ask and affirm, wretched as we are, who will deliver us? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Savior for he has delivered us from the domain of darkness and brought us into his marvelous might.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 6:40

For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMNS OF COMMUNION

Stricken Smitten, and Afflicted

1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See Him dying on the tree.
'Tis the Christ by man rejected,
Yes my soul 'tis He 'tis He.
'Tis the long expected prophet,
David's son yet David's Lord.
By His Son God now hath spoken,
'Tis the true and faithful word.

3. Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great,
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load:
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

2. Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
Foes insulting His distress.
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would interpose to save.
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him,
Was the stroke that justice gave.

4. Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the Lost,
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,
His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built!

Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built!

INTERLUDE

Rock of Ages

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

2. Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and thou alone.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

*Authors: Augustus Monague Toplady and
James Ward © 1985 James Ward Music*

CLOSING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, Thou Day-Spring
Come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

3. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

4. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Author: John Mason Neale
Public Domain*

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

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946

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)