

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 2, 2020 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP

Doxology (Praise God)

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| 1. Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
In heav'n above, and earth below.
Praise God the Father and the Son.
Praise God the Spirit, three in one. | 2. From all that dwell beneath the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise.
Let our Redeemer's name be sung,
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.
Amen. |
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WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

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| 1. How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds ,which mar the Chosen One,
Bring many sons to glory. | 3. I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection!
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom. |
| 2. Behold, the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life,
I know that it is finished. | Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom. |

Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it Lord that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to His blood.

Authors: Words by Isaac Watts; Music by Lowell Mason © Public Domain

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Job 28:12-28

¹²“But where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? ¹³Man does not know its worth, and it is not found in the land of the living. ¹⁴The deep says, ‘It is not in me,’ and the sea says, ‘It is not with me.’ ¹⁵It cannot be bought for gold, and silver cannot be weighed as its price. ¹⁶It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir, in precious onyx or sapphire. ¹⁷Gold and glass cannot equal it, nor can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold. ¹⁸No mention shall be made of coral or of crystal; the price of wisdom is above pearls. ¹⁹The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it, nor can it be valued in pure gold. ²⁰“From where, then, does wisdom come? And where is the place of understanding? ²¹It is hidden from the eyes of all living and concealed from the birds of the air. ²²Abaddon and Death say, ‘We have heard a rumor of it with our ears.’ ²³“God understands the way to it, and he knows its place. ²⁴For he looks to the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. ²⁵When he gave to the wind its weight and apportioned the waters by measure, ²⁶when he made a decree for the rain and a way for the lightning of the thunder, ²⁷then he saw it and declared it; he established it, and searched it out. ²⁸And he said to man, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding.’”

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Be Thou My Vision

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

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Willard Remington Ludwick

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 17:16-34

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems

to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for ““In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ““For we are indeed his offspring.’

²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

³²Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

SERMON

“The Gospel for Epicureans and Stoics”

-Rev. Bryan Rigg

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF CONFESSION

By Thy Mercy

1. Jesus, Lord of life and glory,
Bend from heav'n Thy gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore Thee,
Friend of helpless sinners, hear:

2. From the depth of nature's blindness,
From the hard'ning pow'r of sin,
From all malice and unkindness,
From the pride that lurks within.

Chorus

By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord;
By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord,
Good Lord.

3. When temptation sorely presses,
In the day of Satan's pow'r,
In our times of deep distresses,
In each dark and trying hour.

4. When the world around is smiling,
In the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,
In the day of health and peace.
Chorus

5. In the weary hours of sickness,
In the times of grief and pain,
When we feel our mortal weakness,
When all human help is vain.

6. In the solemn hour of dying,
In the awful judgment day,
May our souls, on Thee relying,
Find Thee still our Rock and Stay.
Chorus 2X

*Authors: Words – James J. Cummins;
Music – Greg Thompson
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CONFESSION OF SIN Hebrews 4:12–13

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Hebrews 4:14–16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMNS

Man of Sorrows

1. Man of sorrows, Lamb of God,
By His own betrayed;
The sin of man and wrath of God
Has been on Jesus laid.

2. Silent as He stood accused,
Beaten mocked and scorned;
Bowing to the Father's will,
He took a crown of thorns.

Chorus

Oh, that rugged cross, my salvation,
Where Your love poured out over me;
Now my soul cries out, 'Hallelujah!
Praise and honour unto Thee!'

3. Sent of heaven, God's own Son,
To purchase and redeem
And reconcile the very ones
Who nailed Him to that tree.

Chorus

Bridge

Now my debt is paid,
It is paid in full,
By the precious blood
That my Jesus spilled;
Now the curse of sin
Has no hold on me;
Whom the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed!

REPEAT

Chorus

4. See the stone is rolled away,
Behold the empty tomb;
Hallelujah, God be praised!
He's risen from the grave!

Chorus

Praise and honour unto Thee,
Praise and honour unto Thee

*Authors: Brooke Ligertwood / Matt Crocker
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'Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise,
Just to know, 'Thus saith the Lord.'

Chorus

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him,
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus,
O, for grace to trust Him more.

2. O, how sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing cleansing flood.

Chorus

3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace.
Chorus

4. I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me,
Wilt be with me to the end.

Chorus 2x

*Authors: Louisa M. R. Stead / William James
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HYMN OF RESPONSE Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

*Authors: Bob Kauflin | Isaac Watts | Thomas Ken
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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)