

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • MAY 13, 2018 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP Revelation 11:15, 17

Pastor: Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

People: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign."

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF ADORATION All Creatures of Our God and King

Everyone:

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,

Chorus

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

Women:

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice,
Chorus (Everyone)

Men:

And all ye men of tender heart
Forgiving others take your part
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care
Chorus (Everyone)

Everyone:

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One
Chorus

Authors: Ken Barker, William Henry Draper, St. Francis of Assisi, and Ralph Vaughan Williams
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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

22 Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23 On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. 24 And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

HYMN OF CONFESSION

1. No more, my God, I boast no more
Of all the duties I have done;
I quit the hopes I held before,
To trust the merits of Thy Son

Chorus

No more my God,
No more my God,
No more my God,
I boast no more.

2. Now, for the loss I bear His name,
What was my gain I count my loss;
My former pride I call my shame,
And nail my glory to His cross.
Chorus

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent forth your Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law. But we have shown too little interest in your great salvation. We have not searched out, nor carefully inquired, concerning the grace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Instead, we are consumed with our own schedules and the demands upon our own time. We are overly concerned with our own accomplishments and the work required of us. Forgive us. And draw your hearts and minds once again to the wonders of what you have done for us, and what you have promised yet to do, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

1. O Love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul in Thee
I give Thee back the life I owe
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer fuller be

2. O Light that follow'st all my way
I yield my flickering torch to Thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter fairer be

3. O Joy that seekest me through pain
I cannot close my heart to Thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be

4. O Cross that liftest up my head
I dare not ask to fly from thee
I lay in dust life's glory dead
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be
O Love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul in Thee

Authors: Words by George Matheson; Music by Christopher Miner
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Westminster Shorter Catechism Q #102

Q. What do we pray for in the second petition?

A. In the second petition, which is, "Thy kingdom come", we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF THANKS **Rock of Ages**

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

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.*

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.*

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.*

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*

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 4:26-34**

²⁶ And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰ And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹ It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴ He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

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

Pastor: Faith comes from hearing

People: And hearing through the word of Christ.

SERMON "Seeds: Points of Comparison with God's Kingdom" - Rev. Rob Edwards

HYMN OF RESPONSE **God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory**

(to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee")

1. *God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;
Ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;
Beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;
All the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.*

2. *Clearer still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
Ruler of creation's glory, image of thy majesty.
Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days,
Are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise.*

3. *God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
We, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;
With our acts as with our voices thy commandments to fulfill.*

Authors: Words - David Clowney, 1960 / Music - Ludwig van Beethoven

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

*"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*

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