

**MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 20, 2019 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 53:4-6

Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

Congregation: But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities.

Leader: Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

Congregation: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

There Is a Fountain

1. There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

3. Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power
Til all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more
Be saved to sin no more
Be saved to sin no more
Til all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more

2. The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away

4. When this poor lispings, stammering
tongue
Lies silent in the grave
Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing They pow'r to save
I'll sing They pow'r to save
I'll sing They pow'r to save
Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing They pow'r to save

Authors: Lowell Mason, William Cowper © Public Domain

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 53:7-12

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? ⁹And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

HYMN OF CONFESSION How Deep the Father's Love For Us

1. How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He would 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 pow'rs, 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 the 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!

Author: Words and music by Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father, I confess that my confession is not enough to save me. Even though I acknowledge and repent of my sin, I have no power to liberate myself from its bonds and to make restitution for the damage I have done. Restitution and restoration are only in Jesus, my Savior, and Lord. I confess that I have despised your mercy, rejected your grace, and like a sheep without a shepherd I have gone astray. And I thank you Father, that by the oppression and the affliction of your Son, you have not ceased to pursue me. You have interceded for me and have made me right. Continue your good work that I might be presented blameless before your glorious throne. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 6:23

²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

The Love of Christ is Rich and Free

1. The love of Christ is rich and free
Fixed on his own eternally
Nor earth, nor hell can it remove
Long as He lives, His own He'll love

3. Love has redeemed His sheep with blood
And love will bring them safe to God
Love calls them all from death to life
And love will finish all their strife

2. His loving heart engaged to be
Their everlasting surety
'Twas love that took their cause in hand
And love maintains it to the end

4. He loves through every changing scene
Nor aught from Him can Zion wean
Not all the wanderings of her heart
Can make His love for her depart
Chorus

Chorus

Love cannot from its power withdraw
Nor death, nor hell, nor sin, nor law
Can turn the Surety's heart away
He'll love His own to endless day

5. At death, beyond the grave, He'll love
In endless bliss His own shall prove
The blazing glory of that love
Which never could from them remove
Which never could from them remove

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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Who Is This, So Weak and Helpless?

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

1. Who is this so weak and helpless
Child of lowly Hebrew maid
Rudely in a stable shelter
Coldly in a manger laid?
'Tis the Lord of all creation
Who this wondrous path has trod
He is Lord from everlasting
And to everlasting God

3. Who is this? Behold Him shedding
Drops of blood upon the ground
Who is this, despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?
'Tis our God, who gifts and graces
On His church is pouring down
Who shall smite in holy vengeance
All His foes beneath His throne

2. Who is this a Man of Sorrows
Walking sadly life's hard way
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping
Over sin and Satan's sway?
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior
Who above the starry sky
Is for us a place preparing
Where no tear can dim the eye

4. Who is this that hangs there dying
While the rude world scoffs and scorns
Numbered with the malefactors
Torn with nails and crowned with thorns?
'Tis our God who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high
In the glorious golden city
Reigning everlastingly

'Tis our God who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high
In the glorious golden city
Reigning everlastingly

Authors: Christopher Miner and William Walsham How © 1998 Christopher Miner

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:1, 4-8, 26-40

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. [...] ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? [...]

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SERMON

"God's Path Leads to People"
Rusty Smith

SONG OF RESPONSE

His Mercy Is More

Chorus

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Chorus

2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Chorus

3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Chorus x2
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Authors: Matt Boswell, Matt Papa © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs

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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