

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 17, 2019 • 10:30 AM

CALL TO WORSHIP      Psalm 22:27, 18:49

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

Congregation: For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing to your name.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE      May the Peoples Praise You

1. You have called us out of darkest night  
Into Your glorious light  
That we may sing the wonders of  
The risen Christ.  
  
2. May our every breath retell the grace  
That broke into our strife,  
With boundless love and deepest joy  
With endless life.  
  
Chorus

May the peoples praise You,  
Let the nations be glad!  
All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise,  
May praise the Name of Jesus!

3. All the earth is Yours and all within,  
Each harvest is Your own.  
And from Your hand we give to You  
To make Christ known.

4. May the seeds of mercy grow in us  
For those who have not heard.  
May songs of praise build lives of grace  
To spread Your Word.  
Chorus

NEW TESTAMENT READING    1 Peter 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; <sup>3</sup> not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. <sup>5</sup> Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, <sup>7</sup> casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN OF CONFESSION

O Great God

1. O great God of highest heav'n  
Occupy my lowly heart.  
Own it all and reign supreme,  
Conquer every rebel pow'r.  
Let no vice or sin remain  
That resists Your holy war.  
You have loved and purchased me  
Make me Yours forever more.  
  
2. I was blinded by my sin,  
Had no ears to hear Your voice.  
Did not know Your love within,  
Had no taste for heaven's joys.  
Then Your Spirit gave me life,  
Opened up Your Word to me.  
Through the gospel of Your Son  
Gave me endless hope and peace.  
  
3. Help me now to live a life  
That's dependent on Your grace.  
Keep my heart and guard my soul  
From the evils that I face.  
You are worthy to be praised  
With my every thought and deed.  
O great God of highest heav'n  
Glorify Your Name through me.  
  
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O great God of highest heav'n  
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*Author: Bob Kauflin  
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CONFESSON OF SIN

With our hearts we believe and are justified, and with our mouths we confess and are saved. Yet there is much in our lives that does not proceed from faith. And whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. We doubt your goodness, and so grumble and complain, rather than giving thanks for every good thing. We doubt your care, and so we are filled with anxiety, that keeps us from prayer. We doubt your sovereign plan, and so become angry when things don't go our way. We doubt your love, and so search elsewhere for acceptance. O Lord, we believe. Help our unbelief! And though weak in faith, we hope in the strength of Christ Jesus our Savior. Hear our prayer in his name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE      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  
(Interlude)

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 2X  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

*Authors: Matt Boswell / Matt Papa  
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**HYMN OF PREPARATION****The Church's One Foundation**

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

1. The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord.  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride,  
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life, He died.

2. Elect from ev'ry nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth.  
Her charter of salvation,  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy Name she blesses  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev'ry grace endued.

3. Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation,  
Of peace for evermore.  
Till with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blessed  
And the great church victorious  
Shall be the church at rest.

4. Yet she on earth hath union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won,  
O happy ones and holy  
Lord give us grace that we,  
Like them the meek and lowly  
On high may dwell with Thee.

*Words by Samuel Stone; Music by Brian Moss  
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**SCRIPTURE READING****Acts 13:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. <sup>2</sup> While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

<sup>4</sup> So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. <sup>5</sup> When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. <sup>6</sup> When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. <sup>7</sup> He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. <sup>8</sup> But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. <sup>9</sup> But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? <sup>11</sup> And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. <sup>12</sup> Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

**SERMON****"The Characteristics of the Church"**

- Rev. Bryan Rigg

**HYMN OF RESPONSE****Let Your Kingdom Come**

1. Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts.  
May Jesus Christ be known wherever we are.  
We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown.  
The cross has saved us, so we pray,  
"Your kingdom come."

**Chorus**

Let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done!  
So that everyone might know Your Name.  
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,  
till Your sovereign work on earth is done.

Let Your kingdom come!

2. Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak.  
Perform Your wondrous deeds through those who are weak.  
Lord, use us as You want, whatever the test.  
By grace, we'll preach Your Gospel till our dying breath.  
Chorus 2X

Let Your kingdom come!  
Let Your kingdom come!

*Words and music by Bob Kauflin  
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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**

**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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