

# Mercy Presbyterian Church

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • MARCH 22, 2020 • 10:30 AM

### CALL TO WORSHIP 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 54-56

Leader: Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

**People: That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**

Leader: Death is swallowed up in victory.

**People: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?**

Leader: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

**All: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

#### HYMN OF ADORATION

1. All glory, laud, and honor  
To Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and Blessed One!

2. The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before Thee went;  
Our prayer and praise and anthems  
Before Thee we present.  
To Thee, before Thy Passion,  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.

#### All Glory, Laud and Honor

3. Thou didst accept their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor  
To Thee, Redeemer King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!

Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest (repeat)

*Authors: John Mason Neale | Melchior Teschner |  
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## OLD TESTAMENT READING

## Joel 2:12-14, 28-32

<sup>12</sup> “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup> and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. <sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain of offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?

<sup>28</sup> And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup> Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. <sup>30</sup> “And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. <sup>32</sup> And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, you declare that we have been raised with Christ. You assure us that when he appears, we will appear with him in glory. Therefore, you tell us to set our minds on things that are above, where Christ is seated, at your right hand. You call us to count ourselves dead to sin. But we have failed to put to death our impurity, evil desire, and covetousness. We have not put away anger, wrath, malice, and slander. We are satisfied with our old selves and its practices. Forgive us. And through your Spirit, enable us to live more and more according to our new selves in Christ, putting on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. As you have forgiven us, may we also forgive, doing all things in the name of the Lord Jesus.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON Psalm 17:15

As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness.

## 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 **How Sweet & Awesome**

1. How sweet and awesome is the place  
With Christ within the doors,  
While everlasting love displays  
The choicest of her stores

2. While all our hearts and all our songs  
Join to admire the feast,  
Each of us cry, with thankful tongues  
“Lord why was I a guest?”

3. Why was I made to hear Thy voice  
And enter while there’s room,  
When thousands make a wretched choice  
And rather starve than come?

4. ‘Twas the same love that spread the feast  
That sweetly drew us in,  
Else we had still refused to taste  
And perished in our sin.

5. Pity the nations, O our God,  
Constrain the earth to come;  
Send Thy victorious Word abroad  
And bring the strangers home.

5. We long to see Thy churches full,  
That all the chosen race  
May, with one voice and heart and soul,  
Sing Thy redeeming grace

With all our hearts and all our songs  
Join to admire the feast,  
Each of us cry, with thankful tongues;  
Each of us cry, with thankful tongues,  
“Lord, why was I a guest?”

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### SCRIPTURE READING **Acts 21:27-22:1**

<sup>27</sup>When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him, <sup>28</sup>crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” <sup>29</sup>For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple. <sup>30</sup>Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut. <sup>31</sup>And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion. <sup>32</sup>He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. <sup>33</sup>Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired who he was and what he had done. <sup>34</sup>Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks. <sup>35</sup>And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, <sup>36</sup>for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

<sup>37</sup>As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, "May I say something to you?" And he said, "Do you know Greek? <sup>38</sup>Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?" <sup>39</sup>Paul replied, "I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city. I beg you, permit me to speak to the people."<sup>40</sup>And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with his hand to the people. And when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew language,[a] saying:

<sup>1</sup> "Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you."

## **SERMON**                      **"Who are You in the Midst of Suffering?"** **- Rev. Bryan Rigg**

### **SERMON OUTLINE**

1. Paul is known by the gospel (v.28)
2. Paul is known for having compassion on the lost (v.29)
3. Paul is tenacious and intentional with his words (v.38-40)

## **HYMN OF RESPONSE**                      **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

5. This our holy priv'lege to declare  
Your praises and Your name;  
To every nation, tribe and tongue,  
Your church proclaims

Chorus

(Bridge)

Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty;  
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain.  
Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty;  
All creation praise Your glorious Name!

Chorus 2X

*Authors: David Simmer | Ed Cash | Keith Getty | Kristyn  
Getty | Stuart Townsend*

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Songs*

## **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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