



WEST ERIE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

“I PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE
OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST
JESUS.”

-PHILIPPIANS 3:14

WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTOR MARC MILLER, RE TIM WHITBECK

THE LORD’S WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Psalms 91:1-2

Leader: He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

All: I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

*Gloria Patri**

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

Irreg. H.W. Greatorex, 1851

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen, amen."

PRAYER OF INVOCATION*

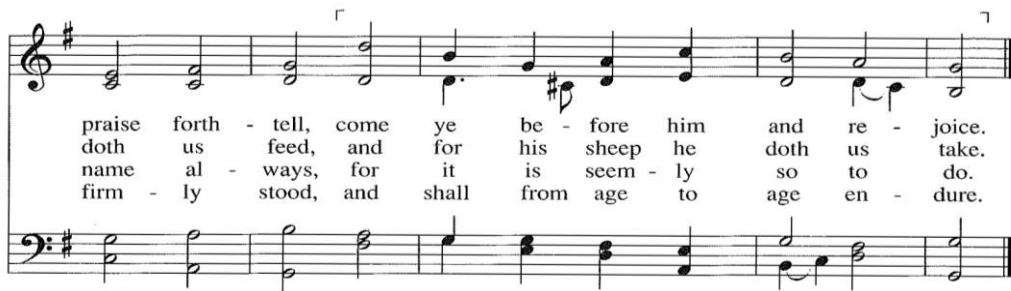
*Psalm of Praise**

TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.

"Psalm 100"

1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
2. The Lord ye know is God in - deed; with -
3. O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap -
4. For why? The Lord our God is good, his

to the Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with fear, his
out our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he
proach with joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
mer - cy is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times



CONFESSION OF FAITH*

Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 75

Leader: What is sanctification?

All: Sanctification is a work of God's grace, whereby they whom God hath, before the foundation of the world, chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of his Spirit applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them, renewed in their whole man after the image of God; having the seeds of repentance unto life, and all other saving graces, put into their hearts, and those graces so stirred up, increased and strengthened, as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise unto newness of life.

CONFESSION OF SIN

All: Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and corruption, prone to evil, unable of ourselves to do any good; who, by reason of our sinfulness, transgress Your holy commandments. O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offenses! Be pleased then to have compassion on us, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and corruption, grant us the daily increase of Your Holy Spirit that we might put to death the sin that is within us and bear all the fruit of the Spirit in our daily lives. We trust You for these graces on the basis of the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Hear now our silent confessions in Jesus' name.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 13: 38-39; I John 1: 9

Leader: Hear the good news! "Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

"Psalm 3"

"Amazing Grace"

O LORD, how are my foes increased! Against me many rise.
How many say, "In vain for help He on his God relies!"

You are my shield and glory, LORD; You lifted up my head.
I cried out, "LORD!" and from His hill To me His answer sped.

I lay down, slept, and woke again The LORD is keeping me.
I will not fear ten thousand men Entrenched surrounding me.

Arise, O LORD! Save me, my God! You punish all my foes.
You smite the face of wicked men, Their teeth break with your blows.

Deliverance is from the LORD, Salvation His alone!
O let Your blessing evermore Be on Your people shown!

PASTORAL PRAYER

All: *Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Psalm 128:1-6

Leader: Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways.

All: *When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.*

Leader: Your wife *shall be* like a fruitful vine In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table.

All: *Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the LORD.*

Leader: The LORD bless you out of Zion, And may you see the good of Jerusalem All the days of your life.

All: *Yes, may you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 22:47-71

"And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. ⁴⁸But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But Jesus answered and said, "Permit even this." And He touched his ear and healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and the elders who had come to Him, "Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³"When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness." ⁵⁴Having arrested Him, they led *Him* and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance. ⁵⁵Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him." ⁵⁷But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him." ⁵⁸And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this *fellow* also was with Him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." ⁶²So Peter went out and wept bitterly. ⁶³Now the men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him. ⁶⁴And having blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face and asked Him, saying, "Prophecy! Who is the one who struck You?" ⁶⁵And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him. ⁶⁶As soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together and led Him into their council, saying, ⁶⁷"If You are the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe. ⁶⁸"And if I also ask *you*, you will by no means answer Me or let *Me* go. ⁶⁹"Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰Then they all said, "Are You then the Son of God?" So He said to them, "You *rightly* say that I am." ⁷¹And they said, "What further testimony do we need? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 1:1-14

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. ⁵For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son"? ⁶But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." ⁷And of

the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire." ⁸But to the Son *He says*: "Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your Kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions." ¹⁰And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. ¹¹They will perish, but You remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; ¹²Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail." ¹³But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? ¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Hymn of Preparation*

TUNE: ST. ANNE C.M.

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

From Psalm 90. Isaac Watts, 1719.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
 with all their lives and cares,
 are carried downward by your flood,
 and lost in foll'wing years.
6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all its sons away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.
7. Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come:
 O be our guard while troubles last,
 and our eternal home.

SERMON

Philippians 3:12-14

"Pressing on in 2026"

Pastor Marc Miller

- ¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.
- ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,
- ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Sermon Notes:

- Point 1

- Point 2

- Point 3

*Hymn of Response**

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

"O Church Arise"

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O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

BENEDICTION*

Prayer requests

- This week's WEPCA Missionaries: The Spencer and Carmen Family
- Pray for our country's leaders and those who serve us.
- Pray for our elders and deacons.
- Pray for our covenant children.

Announcements

- Prayer meeting: Wednesdays, at 8:30 p.m. over zoom. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Miller. There will be no prayer meeting on Wednesday, December 31.
- Youth Group for grades 6-12: Sunday, January 4, from 6-7:30 p.m. at church.
- Men's Bible Study: **Saturday, January 10, at 8 am.** Please read Chapter 14 in the James Study book.
- We will be starting a new Men's Bible study on Romans in February. There is a sign-up sheet in the back along with the books.
- Sunday School: Sunday at 10 am. We have classes for ages 4 to adults. Please talk to Pastor Miller if you have any questions. **We will not have Sunday school on January 4.**
- After Church fellowship: Sunday, January 11, after the morning worship service. Please inform Pastor Miller or a member of the fellowship committee of any allergies. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper next week. Please take some time to prepare your hearts through prayer and the reading of Scripture.

Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

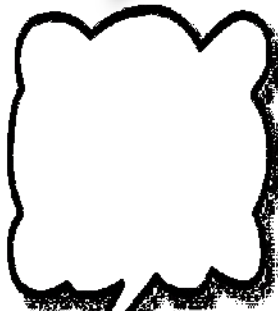
Date: _____



As you attend church services with your family, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.



Who is speaking?



Words you heard but don't know...

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon

What is the main passage we are reading today??

Book:

Chapter:

Verse:



Favorite song today was:

What are we learning about God from this passage?

Questions?

How does today's message apply to your life?

The most important thing you learned was:

WELCOME!

If you are visiting our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. There are a few things that we would like you to know about West Erie Presbyterian Church.

- **We are Historically Reformed.**
 - We believe in the inspired and inerrant Word of God.
 - We believe in the absolute sovereignty of God.
 - We hold to a covenantal framework of Scripture.
 - We believe that salvation is a free gift of God.
- **We are Community Oriented.**
 - We seek to share the only hope that this world has: that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - We seek to be a church that is salt and light to the community around us and fulfill the Great Commission.
- **We are Confessional.**
 - As a Christian church, ancient statements such as the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed help us to confess certain basic and essential truths of the Christian faith.
 - As a Presbyterian church, our confessional or doctrinal standards consist of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms (copies of these documents are available from the church).
 - All of these statements are under the authority of Scripture.

We thank you for visiting today! If you have any questions regarding our style of worship, please feel free to ask the pastor or one of our elders. We would be happy to talk with you. Also, we would ask you to stay after and enjoy the fellowship of our Christian community. West Erie Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org).

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