

## The Mercy of God

Holy Father, Thy wisdom excites our admiration, Thy power fills us with fear, Thy omnipresence turns every spot of earth into holy ground; but how shall we thank Thee enough for Thy mercy which comes down to the lowest part of our need to give us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and for the spirit of heaviness a garment of praise?

We bless and magnify Thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When through the blood of the everlasting covenant we children of the shadows reach at last our home in the light, we shall have a thousand strings to our harps, but the sweetest may well be the one tuned to sound forth most perfectly the mercy of God.

For what right will we have to be there? Did we not by our sins take part in that unholy rebellion which rashly sought to dethrone the glorious King of creation? And did we not in times past walk according to the course of this world, according to the evil prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience? And did we not all at once live in the lusts of our flesh? And were we not by nature the children of wrath, even as others...?

Mercy never began to be, but from eternity was; so it will never cease to be. It will never be more since it is itself infinite; and it will never be less because the infinite cannot suffer diminution. Nothing that has occurred or will occur in heaven or earth or hell can change the tender mercies of our God. Forever His mercy stands, a boundless, overwhelming immensity of divine pity and compassion....

Arise, my soul, arise; Shake off thy guilty fears;  
The bleeding Sacrifice In my behalf appears:  
Before the throne my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear:  
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear:  
With confidence I now draw nigh, And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.  
By Charles Wesley

~ AW Tozer

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Westminster Presbyterian Church  
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**The Prelude:** *A time of silence to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*  
(Elder to Lead Worship – Roy Smith)

**Welcome, Announcements and Silent Prayer** (10:25)

**Call to Worship: Psalm 95:6,7**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

**Salutation: 2 Thessalonians 1:2** (Elder)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Invocation** (Elder)

\* **Hymn # 173:** *Praise Him! Praise Him!*

**Confession of Faith: 1 Corinthians 13** (Responsively)

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

**And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.**

If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

**Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.**

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

**Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

\* Congregation Stands

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

**For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.**

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

**For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.**

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

**Confession of Sin: Isaiah 55:7**

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

**Silent Prayer**

**Assurance of Pardon: 1 Timothy 1:15 (Elder)**

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

\* **Hymn # 486:** *God, Be Merciful to Me*

**Offertory Scripture/Prayer: 2 Corinthians 9:11-12 (Elder)**

You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

**Tithes and Offerings/Offertory Music**

**Doxology: Hymn #731** *(Tune from Jesus shall Reign)*

**Choir anthem:** *Lord, Have Mercy*

*Children ages 4 - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade may go to Children's Church at this time*

**Prayer for the Congregation**

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 4:8-15**

**Sermon: *Murder and Mercy*** by Pastor Mark Scholten

**Communion Hymn # 501:** *Just As I Am, without One Plea (verses 1,2,5)*

**Communion Invitation** (Please move to the center sections)

**The Bread and Cup** (Please come forward to receive communion, partake individually)

**Prayer**

**Hymn #465:** *Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord*

**Benediction**

*Reminder – after each service there will be Elders available at the front of the sanctuary to meet with you individually to pray for you or any concerns you or your family may have.*

