

**Prayer for Ukraine**  
**Oakmont Presbyterian Church**  
**March 23, 2022 7:00 pm**

Prelude Michael P. Frank III, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

*Ukraine National Anthem* Mykhailo Verbytsky/ arr. Maurizio Machella

*Ukraine's glory has not yet died, nor her freedom,  
Upon us, my young brothers, fate shall yet smile.  
Our enemies will perish, like dew in the morning sun,  
And we too shall rule, brothers, in our own land.*

Refrain:

*Souls and bodies we'll lay down, all for our freedom,  
And we will show that we, brothers, are of the Cossack nation!  
Souls and bodies we'll lay down, all for our freedom,  
And we will show that we, brothers, are of the Cossack nation!*

*A Prayer for Ukraine* (for organ)

Paul F. Page

Composed on March 6, 2022 as a prayer for peace.

Welcome

Rev. Steve Wilson, Senior Pastor

\*Hymn

*O God of Every Nation*

see bulletin page 8

\*Opening Sentences

Barbara Bolls

*Of God we ask,*

**What is the time?**

*There is a time to be born and a time to die.*

*There is a time to kill and a time to heal.*

**What is the time?**

*There is a time to weep and a time to laugh.*

*There is a time for mourning and a time for dancing.*

**What is the time?**

*There is a time to tear and a time to mend.*

*There is a time for silence and a time for speech.*

**What is the time?**

*There is a time to love and a time to hate.*

*There is a time for war and a time for peace.*

**What is the time?**

\*Silence is kept – Please remain standing as a gesture of solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

After a period of time, the congregation may be seated.

*We are members of a family,  
the human family  
which, in the ancient land of Ukraine,  
is torn by tension, suspicion, hatred,  
hunger, killing and death.*

*We are troubled by cruelty and disaster  
such as we have not known,  
and we are unclear of the cause  
and unsure of the remedy.*

*We believe that God accepts confusion  
as well as concern,  
and has never been deaf to the cries  
of anger, fear and hopelessness  
in the face of injustice.*

*We are the Body of Christ  
In which if one part suffers,  
The other parts pray to heal it  
And help to bear it.*

\*Hymn

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

1 Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love; make us one bod - y.  
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
4 Come, hope of u - ni - ty; make us one bod - y.

Come, O Lord Je - sus; rec - on - cile all peo - ple.

TEXT: Geonyong Lee, 1988; English trans. Marion Pope, c. 1990  
MUSIC: Geonyong Lee, 1988  
Text and Music © 1988 Geonyong Lee

O-SO-SO  
6.5.5.6

Prayer

Lin Ewing

*In You, our God, is our hope and consolation. Your love is beyond our deserving, your wisdom is beyond our understanding. Your light is greater than our darkness.*

*We wish we could enter Your presence with songs of rejoicing; but not here, not now. Our hearts are heavy, our minds bewildered, our uncertainty disturbs our faith.*

*Why? And why? And how long? And What next?*

*...these are the questions we bring, not looking for instant answers, but hoping that we will be heard.*

The Ukrainian Kyrie

Members of the Chancel Choir

*Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).*

*Christe eleison (Christ have mercy)*

*Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy).*

*Gracious God, quieten our personal anxieties, so that we may better feel for those whose land has been invaded, whose towns and homes have been ravaged, and whose lives are under threat. Quieten us, so that we may listen for a word from you. Amen.*

First Reading from the Letter of James

What causes fighting and quarrels among you?

Is their origin found in the warring appetites in your bodies?

You want what you cannot have, so you murder; you are envious and cannot fulfill your ambition. So you quarrel and fight.

You do not get what you want because you do not pray for it. Or, if you do, your requests are not granted, because you do not pray from the right motives.

Silence is kept.

Second Reading from a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Steve Wilson

Psalter Reading

Psalm 20

Read responsively between those seated in the center section, those seated in the outer sections of the pews and the choir.

**Outer: May God draw near when the hour of trouble strikes, may Jacob's God be your strength and shield; out of the sanctuary, out of his home, may God provide in your time of need.**

**Center: May God remember the sacrifice you make and take delight in the gifts you bring; may God respond to your heart's deep desire, and grant fulfilment to all your plans.**

*Choir: With every blessing our mouths will shout for joy to celebrate what the Lord has done; and ever after when God shows you favour, in every triumph we'll trace His love.*

**Outer: O let us know that the Lord is God indeed, and grants success to His chosen ones. From highest heaven, God answer our call and bring us victory with Your right hand.**

**Center: Some trust in weapons and some in skills of war, but all we have is our faith in God. They that are mighty shall stumble and fall but we will rise and will overcome.**

Third Reading from the Book of James

Adele Selinger

A word to you who are rich. Weep and wail over the miserable fate overtaking you: your riches have rotted away; your fine clothes are moth-eaten; your silver and gold have corroded.

You have piled up wealth in an age that is near its close. The wages you never paid to those who mowed your fields are crying aloud against you; and the outcry of the reapers has reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.

You have condemned and murdered the innocent, those who offer no resistance.

Silence is kept.

Ministry of Music

*If the War Goes On*

...based on the experience of people who lived through both the civil war in Argentina and the Falklands war.

*If the war goes on and the children die of hunger;  
and the old men weep for the young men are no more,  
and the women learn how to dance without a partner; who will keep the score?*

*If the war goes on and the truth is taken hostage,  
and new horrors lead to the need to euphemize;  
when the calls for peace are declared unpatriotic, who'll expose the lies?*

*If the war goes on and the daily bread is terror  
and the voiceless poor take the road as refugees;  
when a nation's pride destines millions to be homeless, who will hear their pleas?*

*If the war goes on and the rich increase their fortunes,  
as the arms sales soar and new weapons are displayed;  
when a fertile field turns to no-man's-land tomorrow, who'll approve such trade?*

*If the war goes on, will we close the doors to heaven;  
if the war goes on, will we breach the gates of hell;  
if the war goes on, will we ever be forgiven, if the war goes on?*

Fourth Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Doug Crist

Jesus said: Always treat others as you would like them to treat you; that is the law and the prophets.

Enter by the narrow gate. Wide is the gate and broad the road that leads to destruction, and many enter that way. But narrow is the gate and constricted is the road that leads to life, and those who find them are few.

Beware of false prophets who come to you dressed up as sheep, while underneath they are savage wolves. You will recognize them by their fruit.

Can grapes be picked from thorns, or figs from thistles? A good tree always produces healthy fruit, and a bad tree bad fruit.

That is why I say you will recognize the false prophets by their fruit.

Silence is kept.

Ministry of Music

Roberta and Robert Erickson, Handbell Duet

*Here I Am, Lord*

Daniel L. Schutte/arr. Lloyd Larson

*I, the Lord of sea and sky I have heard My people cry.*

*All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.*

*I who made the stars of night I will make their darkness bright.*

*Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Refrain:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night*

*I will go, Lord, if You lead me I will hold Your people in my heart*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.*

*I have wept for love of them, they turn away.*

*I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.*

*I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.*

*I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.*

*I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?*

Prayer

Jan Hepler

*Loving God, because You have the whole world in Your hands, cradle gently those who are rocked by fear, shocked to a depth they have never known and frightened to face tomorrow.*

*On the people of Ukraine: their children, their old people, their venerable adults, their babies soon to be born,*

*Lord have mercy,*

**Christ have mercy.**

*On the people of Ukraine: their defenders, their advocates, those who care for the wounded, who sit with the despairing, who witness and report on the savagery and destruction, who bury the dead.*

*Lord have mercy,*

**Christ have mercy.**

*On the people of Ukraine: their leaders that they may continue to inspire, in word and by example and continue to receive help and solidarity from across the world.*

*Lord have mercy,*

**Christ have mercy.**

*On the people of Russia that they might learn the truth kept from their hearing; On the churches of Russia that they might find the vocabulary and courage to speak truth to power;*

*On the soldiers of Russia who do not believe in the carnage they cause.*

*Lord have mercy,*

**Christ have mercy.**

*On the Russian president, and those who affirm his policies, we ask the judgment of heaven, a radical conversion and an end to their lies, scheming and murder.*

*Lord hear us.*

**Lord graciously hear us.**

*And for our own nation we ask for commitment to match conviction so that the pain of the Ukrainian nation be shared by us, their weary people sheltered by us, their peace assured by us.*

*Lord hear us.*

**Lord graciously hear us.**

*The Ukrainian Kyrie (Choir)*

\*Song

*A Woman's Care*  
based on words from Isaiah 49

using tune: *HAMBURG*

**When trouble strikes and fear takes root, and dreams are dry and sense unsound,  
when hope becomes a barren waste then doubts like mountains soar around.**

**Our wandering minds believe the worst and ask, as faith and fervor fade,  
'Has God now turned his back on us, forsaking those he loved and made?'**

**God says, 'See how a woman cares. Can she forget the child she bore?  
Even if she did, I shan't forget. Though you feel lost, I love you more.**

**'My dearest daughter; fondest son, my weary folk in every land,  
your souls are cradled in my heart, your names are written on my hand.'**

**Then praise the Lord through faith and fear; in holy and in helpless place,  
for height and depth and heav-en and hell can't separate us from God's grace.**

Congregation may be seated.

Closing Prayer *A Prayer of St. Augustine* Steve Wilson  
*Watch now, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep tonight;  
And give Your angels charge over those who sleep.*

**Tend Your wounded ones, O Christ; rest Your weary ones,  
bless Your dying ones, sooth Your suffering ones,  
shield Your joyous ones and all for Your love's sake. Amen.**

Ministry of Music (please remain seated) Roberta and Robert Erickson, Handbell Duet  
*Let There Be Peace on Earth* Sy Miller and Jill Jackson  
*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*  
- Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

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**Offering baskets by the sanctuary doors** are for gifts in support of the Ukrainian people. Gifts will be given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Ukraine. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**This evening's flowers are given** to the Glory to God and to honor the people of Ukraine. Sunflowers are Ukraine's national flower.

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*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*  
*Glory to God* – The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

*The Ukrainian Kyrie*  
Traditional Ukrainian

*If the War Goes On*  
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*A Woman's Care*  
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*O God of Every Nation*

using tune: *PASSION CHORALE*



1. O God of ev - ery na - tion, Of ev - ery race and land,
2. From search for wealth and pow - er And scorn of truth and right,
3. Lord, strength-en all who la - bor That we may find re - lease
4. Keep bright in us the vi - sion Of days when strife shall cease,



1. Re - deem the whole cre - a - tion With Your al - might - y hand;
2. From trust in bombs that show - er De - struc-tion through the night,
3. From fear of rat - tling sa - ber, From dread of war's in - crease;
4. When ha - tred and di - vi - sion Give way to love and peace,



1. Where hate and fear di - vide us And bit - ter threats are hurled,
2. From pride of race and na - tion And blind-ness to Your way,
3. When hope and cour-age fal - ter, Your still small voice is heard;
4. Till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious When truth and jus - tice reign



1. In love and mer - cy guide us And heal our strife-torn world.
2. De - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, E - ter - nal God, we pray!
3. With faith that none can al - ter, Your ser-vants un - der - gird.
4. And Christ shall rule vic - to - rious O'er all the world's do - main.

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Music: *PASSION CHORALE*, 76 76 D, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

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