



**Evening Service**

January 17, 2016

6:30 p.m.

**Prayers of Contrition**

**Ezra 9:1-15**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION TO WORSHIP**

**SINGING TOGETHER** (Congregation Stands)

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

“God Will Take Care of You”

“Glorify Thy Name”

**PRAYER FOR THE GATHERING**

**GOD’S GREETING AND GREETING EACH OTHER**

**OFFERTORY**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Ezra 9:1-15

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**MESSAGE:** “Prayers of Contrition” Ezra 9:1-15

**PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING**

**RESPONSE SONG** (Congregation stands)

“I Will Serve Thee”

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

“Thou Art Worthy, Great Jehovah”

Rev. Kirby Williams  
Worship Leader - Byron Cox

I. Introduction, Psa. 51:16.

II. Exposition of the text, Ezra 9:1-15.

A. Context

B. Discovering the problem, vs. 1-5.

1. Hearing the bad news, vs. 1-2.

a. The delegation, vs. 1.

b. The confession, vs. 2.

c. Reflections of the Exodus, Deut. 7:1-4.

2. Ezra’s heartfelt reaction, vs. 3-5.

a. Ezra’s distress, vs. 3, Job 1:20.

b. The people’s distress, vs. 4.

c. Assuming the position of contrition, vs. 5.

C. Ezra’s prayer of contrition, vs. 6-15.

1. Introduction to the prayer.

2. Mortified by sin, vs. 6-7.

a. A personal address.

b. The expression of mortification.

i. Shame and humiliation.

ii. Loss of face.

iii. Mortified inside and out, Ex. 19:6.

c. Taking personal responsibility.

3. Unwarranted mercy, vs. 8-9.

a. A good sense of history, Ex. 3:7-8.

b. Disgrace in the face of grace, vs. 8.

c. Providential blessings, vs. 9.

4. The sin of mixed marriages, vs. 10-14.

a. Forsaking the commandments, vs. 10-12a, 2Cor. 6:14, Ezra 4:3.

b. A reminder of God’s blessings, vs. 12b.

c. Ezra’s amazement at sin, vs. 13-14.

5. Closing thoughts, vs. 15.

III. Application, Isa. 57:15.

IV. Conclusion