



My
Father's
House
- Luke 2:48-50 NLT -

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

1760 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: 412-331-2863 Website: <https://www.kenmawrchurch.org>

December 29, 2024

*Declaring God's Grace & Demonstrating God's Love,
as Directed by God's Word*

Welcome to Worship!

Greetings friends! Mary and Joseph traveled a full day before realizing that Jesus wasn't in their caravan. We'd better believe they spent a sleepless night before heading back to Jerusalem the next day! When they got back, they combed the city. They finally found him among the elders in the Temple. They must have been both relieved and furious—thankful that he was all right—and mad as a hornet that he pulled such a stunt. *“Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you”* (v. 48) Jesus answers his mother's question with his own question (something he frequently does throughout the Gospels). Verse 49 records that he asks, *“Why were you searching for me?” “Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?”* Why of course. Our children are not simply *our children*; they are ultimately *God's children*. Blessings to each of you! -Pastor Karl

Today at KMUPC

- **Coffee and tea** are available on the lower level at the coffee counter next to the Welcome Room.
- **Restrooms** are on the Sanctuary level, through the front Sanctuary doors, turn right at the office door and follow signs toward the elevator. Additional restrooms are on the first floor at the bottom of the steps and in the lower hallway.
- **Nursery room** is open and available on the lower level, turn right at the bottom of the steps, turn left in the children's department, the nursery room is the last door on the right. There are changing tables, rocking chairs and toys. There is a speaker in this room to hear the service. Please feel free to use this space for you and your child. Please see the information for registration for nursery care during the services.
- **Children's church** is offered for children Preschool age to Grade 4 after Time with the Children during the 11:00 a.m. service. There is a 3-4 year old room and 5 – grade 4 room. The children will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn.
- **Elders/Deacons of the month** are available to help you with general questions and information. The Elder of the Month is usually in the church office throughout the morning.

Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparing for Worship

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn of Praise #191

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

*Prayer of Confession

O God, we live as if the light had never defeated the darkness in the world or in us. We confess that we ignore the Christ you sent to be among us, to be in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his birth each moment in our waiting hearts. Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to your coming. Let the light break forth. Let us all rejoice in the miracle of love. Let Christ come into the fullness of this hour of worship. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Congregational Response

**All ye who are of tender heart, forgiving others take your part.
Sing his praises, Alleluia! Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him with humbleness!
O praise him, Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in One,
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

© 1998 Jonathan Gilley | CCLI #800917, #20719925

Time with the Children (Kids spell love T-I-M-E)

*Children PreK – Grade 4 are invited to children's church.
They will rejoin their families during the last hymn.*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

...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.

Congregational Prayer Response #203

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

Public Domain | CCLI# 800917, 20719925

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

Luke 2:41-52

41 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. 43 After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them. 51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. (NIV)

Sermon

"Why Have You Treated Us Like This?"

*A Prayer for Faith and Courage

**Eternal God, you speak to us in a gentle whisper,
and you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden, and through perils unknown.**

**Give us attentive faith to listen carefully and then go out with
courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Public Domain | CCLI# 800917, 20719925

*Benediction

Thank you for worshipping with us.

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR
COMMISSIONED PASTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TREASURER/ACCOUNTANT
ASSISTANT TREASURER
LIVE STREAM TECHNICIAN
AUDIO/PERCUSSION
J.A.M. DIRECTOR
YOUTH 412 DIRECTOR
CUSTODIAN

Rev. Dr. Karl McDonald
Louise Schoppe
Tiffany Kelly
Kelly McCurdy
Lori Ryan
Cameron Brown
Adam Kantz
Chrissy Pelzer
Katie Herman
P.J. O'Reilly

VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY

CLERK OF SESSION
MODERATOR OF DEACONS
MUSIC DIRECTOR
NURSERY COORDINATOR
ELDER OF THE MONTH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Diane Kuffner
Cheryl Simchak
Jayne McDonald
Tina Ernst
Dave Ewonce
Dan Koller/Val Kamenar/Tony Tresky

~ THANK YOU ~

Counters: Joe McCormick/Bucky Savatt

Van Driver: Tony Cario

Flower Delivery: Claudia Tyler/Kathy Strand



Helping Hands' first work day will be on **January 16** from 10AM – 3PM. Please join us for any amount of time you have available to lend a helping hand with projects here at church. January – Kitchen cleaning

Questions? Lari Skowron 412-719-9033/Diane Haney 412-354-9824
Marcia Petkovich 412-977-8865/Diane Felter 412-716-0318

TODAY AT KMUPC

December 29, 2024

Worship Services 8:30 and 11:00

LOOKING AHEAD

January 1 – Office Closed

January 7 – Lord's Lambs

January 8 – J.A.M. and Choir resume

January 7 – Christian Ed/Sunday School Teachers Meeting

January 11 – Deacons take down decorations

January 11 – Men's Breakfast

January 12 – Ordination and Installation of Officers

January 12 – Week of Hope Mission trip meeting (Middle School/High School)

January 14 – Esther Circle

January 15 – Jackie's Lunch Bunch

January 16 – Helping Hands (Kitchens)

January 19 – Deacons Meeting

January 20 – Finance Meeting

January 21 – Session meeting

The flowers today are given by Sandra Camarota in loving memory of Elmer and Loretta Dunn on their 92nd wedding anniversary.



TODAY'S BENEVOLENCE: Women in Christian Ministry Inc. was founded in 1984. Addressing the role of Christian women in today's society, according to the commands of Jesus Christ, Women in Christian Ministry is made up of local professionals and non-professionals. They offer counseling, safehaven for women, seminars, workshops, and the "Tender Loving Food Program." They also assist single parents with a variety of needs. Women in Christian Ministry is a non-profit agency and depends on the donations of other organizations and individuals.