

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 18, 2021

The Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparation for Worship

"As Water to the Thirsty"

*As water to the thirsty, as beauty to the eyes,
as strength that follows weakness, as truth instead of lies,
as songtime and springtime and summertime to be,
so is my Lord, my living Lord, so is my Lord to me.
Like calm in place of clamor, like peace that follows pain,
like meeting after parting, like sunshine after rain,
like moonlight and starlight and sunlight on the sea,
so is my Lord, my living Lord, so is my Lord to me.*

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Welcome

Welcome to Ken Mawr, friends! On many occasions we struggle with doing “greater things” because we fail to believe enough to pray for and then trust in the Lord’s promises. I like how George Barna, an insightful cultural analyst, puts this in his book, *Maximum Faith*. He writes, and I quote: “We read about the promises of God, but don’t experience their fulfillment...We read the Bible, but generally lack a true understanding of the text, miss its richness and misinterpret its counsel...We take solace in being religious but overlook the value of true spirituality.” Yet, if we prepare, we can have an impact. What practical things can we do to move closer to doing the “greater things” Jesus talked about? We can begin by living out God’s vision of accomplishing his purposes. Thanks for joining us in worship today.

-Pastor Karl

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

Hymn of Praise

“Creation Sings The Father’s Song”

Creation sings the Father’s song; He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day, till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow, His breath upon this spinning globe,
He charts the eagle’s flight; commands the newborn baby’s cry.

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,
“Hallelujah!” Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation’s King.*

Creation gazed upon His face; the ageless One in time’s embrace
Unveiled the Father’s plan, of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth, whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free to live with Him eternally.

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation's King.*

Creation longs for His return, when Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage, are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky, all heaven will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: The glories of our God and King!

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation's King.*

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Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love is inconsistent, and our obedience is incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us for all the ways we fall short of your glory, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Congregational Response

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still still waters, His goodness restores my soul.
And I will trust in You alone. And I will trust in You alone.
For Your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.**

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

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.

Prayer Response

**Lead us Lord, lead us in your righteousness; Make your way plain for us to see.
Lead us Lord, lead us in your righteousness; Make your way plain for us to see.**

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Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

2 Kings 3:1-20

1 Joram son of Ahab became king of Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned twelve years. 2 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD,

but not as his father and mother had done. He got rid of the sacred stone of Baal that his father had made. 3 Nevertheless he clung to the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit; he did not turn away from them. 4 Now Mesha king of Moab raised sheep, and he had to pay the king of Israel a tribute of a hundred thousand lambs and the wool of a hundred thousand rams. 5 But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. 6 So at that time King Joram set out from Samaria and mobilized all Israel. 7 He also sent this message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: “The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?” “I will go with you,” he replied. “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.” 8 “By what route shall we attack?” he asked. “Through the Desert of Edom,” he answered. 9 So the king of Israel set out with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. After a roundabout march of seven days, the army had no more water for themselves or for the animals with them. 10 “What!” exclaimed the king of Israel. “Has the LORD called us three kings together only to deliver us into the hands of Moab?” 11 But Jehoshaphat asked, “Is there no prophet of the LORD here, through whom we may inquire of the LORD?” An officer of the king of Israel answered, “Elisha son of Shaphat is here. He used to pour water on the hands of Elijah.” 12 Jehoshaphat said, “The word of the LORD is with him.” So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him. 13 Elisha said to the king of Israel, “Why do you want to involve me? Go to the prophets of your father and the prophets of your mother.” “No,” the king of Israel answered, “because it was the LORD who called us three kings together to deliver us into the hands of Moab.” 14 Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not pay any attention to you. 15 But now bring me a harpist.” While the harpist was playing, the hand of the LORD came on Elisha 16 and he said, “This is what the LORD says: I will fill this valley with pools of water. 17 For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. 18 This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also deliver Moab into your hands. 19 You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, stop up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones.” 20 The next morning, about the time for offering the sacrifice, there it was—water flowing from the direction of Edom! And the land was filled with water. (NIV)

Sermon

“Bringer of God’s Word”

What the Lord Says—from Jeremiah 9:23-24

This is what the LORD says:

**“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong
boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches,
but let the one who boasts boast about this:
that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the LORD,
who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I
delight,” declares the LORD.**

GO IN GOD’S NAME

Hymn #505

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

*1 All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell,
For I know, whate’er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;*

*For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.
2 All the way my Savior leads me; cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter; and my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the rock before me, lo! a spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the rock before me, lo! a spring of joy I see.
3 All the way my Savior leads me; oh, the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above;
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way.*

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Benediction

Thank you for worshiping with us!

