

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 4, 2021

The Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparation for Worship

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

Let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

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Welcome

Greetings in the name of the Lord! Elijah and his protégé Elisha trek toward Bethel, then to Jericho, and then to the bank of the River Jordan. During this journey, a company of prophets' chants, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master from you today?" (2 Kings 2:3, 5). Something bitter is about to happen: the loss of a deep communion, the end of a shared life. Elijah tries to blunt the pain, saying to Elisha three times, "Stay here" (2 Kings 2:2, 4, 6). But love is deep, and love remains. The mantle is passed. We're happy that you could join us today and we welcome you to Ken Mawr Church on this Independence Day!

-Pastor Karl

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

Hymn of Praise #106

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all;

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all;

Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball,

To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all;

To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all;

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

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Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, for the things we have done that we lament, forgive us. For the things we have failed to do that we regret, forgive us. For all the times we dared not hope and failed to trust you, forgive us. For all the times we have betrayed your love by being afraid to love others, forgive us. For all the times we have failed to forgive, God of all time, forgive us and lift from us our burdens of regret. In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Congregational Response #385

***I praise thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill thy Word and make me pure within.
Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame;
Grant my desire to magnify thy name.***

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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

**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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Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

2 Kings 2:1-15

1 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2 Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. 3 The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet." 4 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. 5 The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet." 6 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on. 7 Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. 8 Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and

struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. 10 "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not." 11 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. 12 Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two. 13 Elisha then picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. 14 He took the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and struck the water with it. "Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over. 15 The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said, "The spirit of Elijah is resting on Elisha." And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him. (NIV)

Sermon

"Passing the Mantle"

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

God's Invitation and Promises

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this hour of worship, this sacramental meal and these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us and encourage many through us. So, Lord may we live to your glory, as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn

"Days of Elijah"

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the word of the Lord:
And these are the days of Your servant Moses; Righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword,
Still, we are the voice in the desert crying, 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord.'
*Behold He comes riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
So lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee. And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

These are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh.
And these are the days of Your servant David, rebuilding a temple of praise.
And these are the days of the harvest; the fields are as white in the world.
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.
*Behold He comes riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
So lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee. And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.
Behold He comes riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
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And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

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Benediction

Thank you for worshiping with us!

