

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, June 27, 2021

The Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparation for Worship

"Psalm 43:3-5"

*Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me;
Let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your tabernacle.
Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy;
And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God.
Why are you cast down, O my soul?
And why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall yet praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my God.*
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Welcome

Welcome to Ken Mawr on this Lord's Day! As our story opens, Ahab, who should be a model of godly faith, remains Israel's king. But he wanted to *dominate* people. God expected Israel's leaders to be different than the monarchs of the surrounding nations who pursued their own wealth and power. God expected Israel's kings to obey God's law because their reign should be a reflection of God's heavenly reign. Paul's letter to Timothy says, "*I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority*" (2:1-2). The sins of Ahab remind us how much our leaders need our prayers.

-Pastor Karl

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

Hymn of Praise

"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.*

Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee. And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

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Prayer of Confession

Healing God, we admit that many of our ills are the effect of our own wrong or willful choices. When we are well, we easily forget to appreciate the life you have given. But when sickness comes upon us we cry out to you, "Why me?" We reject our purpose and your desire through us to heal division and prejudice, to heal loneliness and grief, to heal sick bodies and souls. Forgive us. We confess the weakness of our faith when we pray without believing that all things are possible with you. Let us live with hope in your unfailing love. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Congregational Response #145

Glory be to God, Creator, glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, known as Three, yet God the One. As it was in the beginning, it is now and so shall be in a world without an ending, glory through eternity.

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The Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

Maddox Noah Dietz, born October 4, 2019, will be presented for baptism by his parents, Travis and Michelle (Cosgrove) Dietz, 105 Douglas Lane, Monaca PA 15061. Congratulations and the Lord's blessing to the Dietz family!

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

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

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Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

1 Kings 21:1-22

1 Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. The vineyard was in Jezreel, close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. 2 Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace.

In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth.”
3 *But Naboth replied, “The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my ancestors.”*
4 *So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, “I will not give you the inheritance of my ancestors.” He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat.* 5 *His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, “Why are you so sullen? Why won’t you eat?”* 6 *He answered her, “Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, ‘Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.’ But he said, ‘I will not give you my vineyard.’ ”* 7 *Jezebel his wife said, “Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I’ll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.”* 8 *So she wrote letters in Ahab’s name, placed his seal on them, and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth’s city with him.* 9 *In those letters she wrote: “Proclaim a day of fasting and seat Naboth in a prominent place among the people.* 10 *But seat two scoundrels opposite him and have them bring charges that he has cursed both God and the king. Then take him out and stone him to death.”* 11 *So the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth’s city did as Jezebel directed in the letters she had written to them.* 12 *They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth in a prominent place among the people.* 13 *Then two scoundrels came and sat opposite him and brought charges against Naboth before the people, saying, “Naboth has cursed both God and the king.” So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death.* 14 *Then they sent word to Jezebel: “Naboth has been stoned to death.”* 15 *As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, “Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you. He is no longer alive, but dead.”* 16 *When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth’s vineyard.*

17 *Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite:* 18 *“Go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He is now in Naboth’s vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it.* 19 *Say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: Have you not murdered a man and seized his property?’ Then say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth’s blood, dogs will lick up your blood—yes, yours!’”* 20 *Ahab said to Elijah, “So you have found me, my enemy!” “I have found you,” he answered, “because you have sold yourself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD.* 21 *He says, ‘I am going to bring disaster on you. I will wipe out your descendants and cut off from Ahab every last male in Israel—slave or free.* 22 *I will make your house like that of Jeroboam son of Nebat and that of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have aroused my anger and have caused Israel to sin.’ (NIV)*

Sermon

“Sin and Punishment”

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.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn #21

"This Is My Father's World"

*1 This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--his hand the wonders wrought.*

*2 This is my Father's world: O let us not forget that though
the wrong is great and strong, God is the Ruler yet.
He trusts us with his world, to keep it clean and fair—all earth and trees
all skies and seas, all creatures everywhere.*

*3 This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.*

*This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King, let heaven ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!*

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Benediction

Thank you for worshiping with us!

