

# Acting Lessons

From the Book of Acts



The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

Acts 8:29

## *Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church*

1760 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Phone: 412-331-2863 Website: <https://www.kenmawrchurch.org>

## July 14, 2024

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

# *Welcome to Worship!*

We welcome each of you to Ken Mawr Church! Most people who ask, “How can I know God’s will for my life?” are really asking, “How can I find guidance from the Lord for my life choices and decisions?” In Acts 8, Philip shows us how. It requires our receptivity to the Spirit’s direction and a willingness to accept that direction. Often the guidance we get does not fit our practicality or preferences. But the direction from the Lord’s messenger in verse 26 couldn’t be clearer: *“Go South to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”* Philip already knew that Gaza was to the south, but the instruction to go on the sunbaked Gaza road in the desert seemed strange. The underlying issue in this passage is Philip’s obedience. We usually don’t know what the Lord has planned as far as the circumstances into which he leads us, so our obedience requires total trust. Once again, I welcome 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.
- **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

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Preparing for Worship

“Come Unto Me” – Matthew 11:28-30

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

## GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

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\*Hymn of Praise #679

“Baptized in Water”

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our King;  
born of one Father, we are his children,  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

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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

**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!**

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The Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

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.***

Prayer Response #115

"Praise the Name of Jesus"

**Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus. He's my Rock, he's my  
Fortress, he's my Deliverer, in him will I trust. Praise the name of Jesus.  
Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus. He's my Rock, he's my  
Fortress, he's my Deliverer, in him will I trust. Praise the name of Jesus.**

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Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

## **GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED**

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40

*26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28*

*and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." 30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. 31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea. (NIV)*

Sermon

"The Holy Spirit's Leading"

\*The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten  
of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate  
of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake  
he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom  
will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father  
and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the  
prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Sending Hymn

“Holy Spirit Living Breath of God”

**Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul;  
Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see.  
Give me passion for Your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.**

**Holy Spirit, come abide within; may Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin in each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least; gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace; breath of God, show Christ in all I do.**

**Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made.  
Show Your power once again on earth cause Your church to hunger for your ways  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.**

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\*Benediction

*Thank you for worshiping with us.*

**TODAY'S BENEVOLENCE:** "PRISM is a resource for students new to Pittsburgh (whether here for education, an internship or post-doc work) who want to get to know the area and be connected with Christian peers during their time away from friends and family. PRISM's goal is to embrace and engage people from all over the world, support the students' need to take studies seriously while also experiencing Pittsburgh culture, making new friends, and learning about Jesus!

They currently offer students: friendship partnerships, mentoring, Bible studies, and English language learning, open-house Fridays, and more.

July 21 – Lighthouse Transitional Housing

July 28 – Allegheny County Christian Literacy Council

# THE SERVICE OF BAPTISM

for  
Payton Lajevic

## **Hear the words of the LORD Jesus Christ:**

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the close of the age.

## **The Meaning of Baptism:**

As they are united with Christ through faith, Baptism unites the people of God with each other and with the church of every time and place. Baptism enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's redeeming grace offered to all people. Baptism is God's gift of grace and also God's summons to respond to that grace.

## **Questions to the Parents/Grandparents:**

Do you reaffirm your own faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and LORD? Do you claim God's covenant promises on your child's behalf, and do you look in faith to the LORD Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own? Do you now unreservedly promise, in humble reliance upon God's grace, to set before your child an example of the new life in Christ? Do you promise to pray with and for her and to bring her up in the knowledge and love of God?

## **Questions to the Congregation:**

Do you, the members of this congregation, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake with this parent the Christian nurture of this child so that in due time she may confess faith in Jesus Christ. (*We do.*)

Will you endeavor by your example and fellowship to strengthen their family ties with the household of God? (*We will.*)

## **Prayer**

*Every baptism at Ken Mawr Church is part of a service of worship. Therefore, we ask all present to refrain from using flash photography. Recording from a stationary location is permitted.*

Congratulations and the Lord's blessing to:

Chelsea Marie Whoric  
1340 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Conway, PA 15027

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR** Rev. Dr. Karl McDonald  
**COMMISSIONED PASTOR** Louise Schoppe  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** Tiffany Kelly  
**TREASURER** Sandy Vesce  
**ASSISTANT TREASURER** Lori Ryan  
**LIVE STREAM TECHNICIAN** Cameron Brown  
**AUDIO/PERCUSSION** Adam Kantz  
**J.A.M. DIRECTOR** Chrissy Cannella  
**HS PROGRAM DIRECTOR** Katie Herman  
**CUSTODIAN** P.J. O'Reilly

## VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY

**CLERK OF SESSION** Diane Kuffner  
**MODERATOR OF DEACONS** Cheryl Simchak  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR** Jayne McDonald  
**NURSERY COORDINATOR** Tina Ernst  
**ELDER OF THE MONTH** Bucky Savatt  
**DEACONS OF THE MONTH** Melody Coholic  
Nick Coholic

~THANK YOU~

**Children's Church:**

Louise Schoppe

**Counters:** Bucky Savatt/  
Renee Trunik

**Van Driver:** Tony Tresky

**Flower Delivery:** Dan and  
Cindy Koller

## TODAY AT KMUPC

**July 14, 2024**

Worship services ..... 8:30 and 11:00  
Sermon Chat in the Welcome Room ..... 9:31  
Children's Church ..... 11:00

## THIS WEEK AT KMUPC

Monday Al Anon ..... 7:30  
Friday Office Closed ..... All day  
Sunday Worship Services/Communion ... 8:30 and 11:00  
Sermon Chat ..... 9:31  
Children's Church ..... 11:00  
VBS Begins ..... 6:00

## LOOKING AHEAD

**July 21-25 Breaker Rock VBS**

July 25 – Food Pantry

July 28 – Deacons Summer Brunch at 9:45 a.m.

August 4 – Communion

**August 6 - Shape the Sky – for Parents and Professionals**

August 8 – Food Pantry

August 10 – Men's Breakfast

August 18 – Deacons Summer Brunch at 9:45 a.m.

August 19 – Finance Meeting

August 20 – Session Meeting

August 22 – Food Pantry

The flowers today are given by Dan and Cindy Koller in loving memory of our brother, Eric Betz, on his birthday (July 17th).



**SAVE THE DATE!** SHAPE THE SKY – Creating Responsible Kids on Smartphones is coming to Ken Mawr Church on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. No registration is needed, and this event is FREE. It is designed for **parents and professionals**. Their mission is to help parents and professionals create responsible children online. Invite your adult family members and friends.