

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 19, 2021

The Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparation for Worship

“Lord Have Mercy on Me” (Based on Psalm 51)

Lord have mercy on me. Lord have mercy on me.

According to your unfailing love, according to your great compassion,

Blot out my transgressions. Take away all my iniquities,

And cleanse me from my sin; and cleanse me from my sin.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of my salvation and grant to me a willing spirit to sustain me.

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Welcome

Welcome to Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church! The last verse of our Scripture for today says, “*Mercy triumphs over judgment.*” The idea is that mercy “glories” or “boasts” over judgment. Where mercy and judgment seem in conflict, mercy wins. The good news for every child of God in Christ is that God’s mercy toward us will triumph over his judgment of us (see Romans 8:1). Our sins may argue against us, but Christ is our Advocate who argues for us and keeps us from receiving the judgment we deserve. We, in turn, display God’s kind of mercy toward others. In essence, James 2:13 tells us that, since God judges us with mercy, we must judge others with mercy. Acting mercifully shows our deep gratitude for all that God has done through Jesus, the Redeemer of us all, and by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Blessings! -Pastor Karl

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

Hymn of Praise #25

“Let All Creation Bless the Lord”

Let all creation bless the Lord, till heaven with praise is ringing.

Sun, moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the angels' singing.

Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make music, day, night, cold and heat!

Exalt the God who made you.

All living things upon the earth, green fertile hills and mountains,

sing to the God who gave you birth! Be joyful, springs and fountains.

Lithe waterlife, bright airborne birds, wild roving beasts, tame flocks and herds!

Exalt the God who made you.

O men and women everywhere, lift up a hymn of glory.

Let all who know God's steadfast care tell out salvation's story.

No tongue be silent; sing your part, you humble souls and meek of heart!

Exalt the God who made you.

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Prayer of Confession

Father of the heavenly lights, you have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with your Holy Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may be a kind of first fruits of all you have created and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our light forever. 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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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

James 2:1-13

1 My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? 8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture,

“Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. 9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. 12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment. (NIV)

Sermon

“Who’s the Judge?”

A Responsive Psalm—from Psalm 40:5, 8-11

Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.

I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, LORD, as you know.

I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help. I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness from the great assembly.

Do not withhold your mercy from me, LORD; may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

GO IN GOD’S NAME

Hymn

“Wonderful, Merciful, Savior”

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.*

*Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.*

*You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

*Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,
Oh we’re falling before Your throne.*

You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.

*You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

*You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

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Benediction

Thank you for worshipping with us!

