

John Knox Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
July 25, 2021



GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Those who are able, please stand*

PRELUDE

Andante (Sonata No. 6, Opus 65)

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 95:6-7

Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
for he is our God
**and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

***HYMN**

You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord
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ON EAGLE'S WINGS

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Trusting in God's mercy and grace,
Let us confess together our sin.

**Our Father in heaven, we thank you
that you have led us into the light.
We thank you for sending the Savior to call us from death to life.
We confess that we were dead in sin before we heard his call,
but when we heard him, like Lazarus, we arose.
But, O Father, the grave clothes bind us still.
Old habits that we cannot throw off,
old customs that are so much a part of our lives
that we are helpless to live the new life that Christ calls us to live.
Give us strength, O Father, to break the bonds;
give us courage to live a new life in you;
give us faith to believe that with your help we cannot fail.
All this we ask in the name of the Savior
who has taught us to come to you.**

Silent Confession

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

***Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

—based on 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24

Hear the good news:
This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
He himself bore our sins
in his body on the cross,
that we might be dead to sin,
and alive to all that is good.
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,
you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God For His mercy and grace!

***RESPONDING IN PRAISE**

Sing twice

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Kings 5:1-14

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 5:43-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
The Word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON

“The Goal of Perfection”

David Howell

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.**

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach

*Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN

Lift High the Cross
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CRUCIFER

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

Worship Team

Mark Britt	Luke Browder	Susan Felton	Nancy Grigsby
David Howell	Jeremy Meggs	Jessica Meggs	Bobby Mock
Carol Phillips	Scott Reichen	Caroline Robertson	Charles Tompkins
Gordon Turnbull			

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The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul J. Schaaf,
beloved dad, granddad, and great-granddad, by his family.