

OLD UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 Union Church Road, Mars, PA 16046

724-538-8672

www.OldUnionChurch.com

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Peter de Vries

Choir Director/Organist

Shelley Zoelle

Pianist

Madalyn Reddinger

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 5, 2021

PRELUDE (Time for preparation)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 118:24

*HYMN

“We Will Glorify”

#72

1. We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb
We will glorify the Lord of lords who is the great I Am

2. Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty; we will bow before His throne
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone

3. He is Lord of heaven Lord of earth, He is Lord of all who live
He is Lord above the universe: all praise to Him we give

4. Hallelujah to the King of kings, hallelujah to the Lamb
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords, who is the great I Am

*CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison): “Heavenly Father, our memories haunt us. We berate ourselves for our past failures, whether they were simple mistakes or grave offenses. But we forget the love and grace that you shower upon us through the redeeming work of your Son Jesus Christ, and refuse to accept the forgiveness and healing that you offer. Help us, Lord, to let go of past sin, and to embrace your love. Amen.”

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 43:25

*GLORIA PATRI (Song of Praise)

#622

NEW TESTAMENT (Unison):

Luke 6:20-26

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and

insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. ²³ “Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. ²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Genesis 21:1-19

¹ Now the LORD was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised. ² Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. ³ Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him. ⁴ When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ Sarah said, “God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” ⁷ And she added, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.” ⁸ The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. ⁹ But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, ¹⁰ and she said to Abraham, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.” ¹¹ The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. ¹² But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. ¹³ I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.” ¹⁴ Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. ¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. ¹⁶ Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there, she began to sob. ¹⁷ God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. ¹⁸ Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.” ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

CHILDREN’S TIME

*HYMN

“Christ, As a Light”

HS #8

Christ as a light, illumine and guide me
Christ as a shield, overshadow me
Christ underneath, Christ over me

Christ beside me, on my left and my right
This day be within and without me, lowly and meek yet all powerful
Be in my heart, I reach to Him in my speech
In the dark who speak unto me
This day be within and without me, lowly and meek yet all powerful
Christ as light, Christ as a shield
Christ beside me, on my left and my right.

SERMON "Invitation to Laugh"

*HYMN "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" #172

1. Tell me the story of Jesus, write on my heart every word;
Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard.
Tell how the angels, in chorus, sang as they welcomed His birth,
"Glory to God in the highest! Peace and good tidings to earth."
Refrain: Tell me the story of Jesus, write on my heart every word;
Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard.

2 Fasting alone in the desert, tell of the days that are past;
How for our sins He was tempted, yet was triumphant at last.
Tell of the years of His labor, tell of the sorrow He bore;
He was despised and afflicted, homeless, rejected, and poor.

3 Tell of the cross where they nailed Him, writhing in anguish and pain;
Tell of the grave where they laid Him, tell how He liveth again.
Love in that story so tender, clearer than ever I see:
Stay, let me weep while you whisper, love paid the ransom for me

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (back cover of hymnal)

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY (Song of Dedication) #625

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*APOSTLES CREED (back cover of hymnal)

*BENEDICTION (Closing Blessing) Isaiah 55:6-7
(Response: "...And build each other up.")

*CLOSING SONG "All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord" #587

(* If you are able, please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are not vaccinated and have not had COVID, please wear a mask when indoors.

Today is "Worship as You Work," as we thank God for the work we can do by wearing our work clothes to church.

Becky G will lead our Scripture reading this morning.

Sunday School starts next week, with classes for adults (in the fellowship hall) and children (in the basement), beginning at 9:45.

Beginning next week, worship will start at 11:00. We will offer "Junior Church" during the sermon time for the younger members of our church family.

The deacons will meet after worship next week.

Choir practices will begin next Sunday evening at 7:00.

We are looking for a volunteer to prepare the monthly newsletters for mailing. Speak with Peter to learn more.

Sign up in the lobby if you would like to take a turn leading Children's Time during worship

Please sign up in the lobby to help us gather the supplies for five Cleanup Buckets, which Church World Service will send to disaster victims in need. Your donations are due September 26.

Visit our RADA table in the fellowship hall to support the church with your purchase of mixes, seasonings, and marinades.

We are collecting personal hygiene and feminine monthly products to distribute to students in need at Butler High School. Please place your donations in the bin in the lobby.

The Evans City Food Cupboard is cleaning supplies for the month of September.

Please return baby bottles for the Inn before the end of September.

Special Prayers of Concern:

Bonnie S.
Louise S.
Carol F.
Peggy M.
Joan T.
Gerry C.
Howard B.
Dolly K.
Rose F.
Geri C.
Josh H.

Mission Co-Workers:

Bill and Ann Moore, Japan
Burkhard Paetzold, Germany

Military:

Jeremy H.
Matthew David M.
Justin T.
Scott F.
Frank D.
Michael S.
Glen P.
Will B.
Jacob H.
Christian C.
Ryan W.
Hunter M.
Christopher H.
Arthur B.
Kevin E.
Danner C.
Daniel B.
C.
Spencer K.