



May 9, 2021



Kernstown
United Methodist Church
Rooted in faith.
Branching out through the Spirit

*At Kernstown, we make Disciples as we:
Know God
Grow in God
Sow God into the World*

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bold print = all respond

* = please stand if able

6th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day
May 9, 2021

IN-PERSON SERVICE – 10:20 a.m.

Ringling of the Bell Sam Henshaw

Greeting /Announcements Pastor Aaron Fitch

Prelude David Landrum

Lighting of Altar Candles Sam Henshaw

Call to Worship Pastor Aaron

Leader: Sing a new song,

People: a song of love for all.

Sing of the Spirit of love,

the Spirit Who loves us all.

Sing of God's abiding love,

that we might love one another and all of the world.

Sing a new song,

a song of love for all. Amen.

*Hymn *Happy the Home When God Is There* **UMH 445**

Prayer of Confession Doris Miller

Spirit of love, we come in search of love and in the hope of learning how to love as You love us. Help us to see others with Your eyes of love. Help us to forgive and accept forgiveness as fully and confidently as You forgive. Love us, dear God, with the mercy and grace we need to abide in Your love each and every day. In Your love and grace, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Aaron

God's Spirit is with us, embracing us with forgiveness and grace, abiding in us with the power of love for all.

Reception of New Members

Peggy Gillich
George & JudySue Kempf

Special Presentation

Happy Mother's Day

Prayer for Illumination

Doris Miller

Abide in us, Holy Spirit. Abide in us with Your love. Abide in us with Your power. Abide in us, that we might love one another as You love us. Abide through us, that we might love Your world, as You love the world. In Your love and grace, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 31:1-5 & 15-20 (Old Testament)

Sermon

"God Makes a Great Mom"

Pastor Aaron

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

*Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

*Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

UMH 557

*The Benediction

Pastor Aaron

Created by God, we go to love all of creation. Blessed with love, we are bound by love. Chosen for love, we go now to love.
Amen.

Postlude

David Landrum

CCLI # 11408803



Be faithful in prayer - Romans 12:12 NIV

WINCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER:

CARE FACILITIES:

Consulate Health Care: Connie Mitchell (PA)

Spring Arbor: Marietta Lipscomb (#239) & Lloyd Henry (#210)

Mount Vernon Nursing Center: Virginia Ebbs

Search Group Home: Steven Dobbin

Sunrise at Bon Air: Irene Gates (#205)

Orchard Woods: Phyllis Baker

Lynn Care: Rosalie Wehn (Mimi's grandmother) & Marilyn Stelzl

UPCOMING SURGERIES:

SYMPATHY: Tisinger/Chapman families; Ruth Bennington & family; Perry/Martin family; Bill Tharpe & family

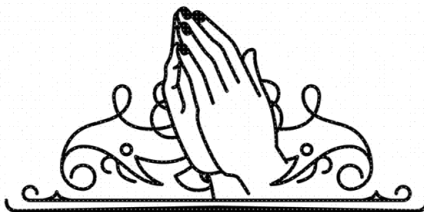
MILITARY: CPO Tiffany McMahan; MMN3 Seth Anton; LTC Tom Crowley; Jared Castro, ROTC

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: Pastor Aaron, Cooper, & Elise; Pastor Clay Knick – lymphoma; the Gordons; the Burchards; Marshall Carper; Judy Allen; Jeanne Newlin & Janie Slater; Peggy Gillich; Polly Look; Shirley Dick

Missionaries: Gregg & Jayne Yarian; Pastor Michael & Lupe Geiss

Local Missions: VAN (Valley Assistance Network), The Winchester Rescue Mission, Lord Fairfax Food Bank, C-CAP

At Home: Bryan Hartley, Pat Price, Jean Snider, Mary Kathryn Clark, Tina Weagley, Florence Roman



Weekly Prayer Requests

May 2

Margo Young – knee replacement; Marilyn Stelzl; Elaine & Billy Masters; Phyllis Baker; Frank Moore; Hayley Moore; Evelyn Jennings; Marietta Lipscomb; Charles "Ike" McFarland

April 25

Betty Lou Langager; Simone Poulin (Danny Aube's aunt); family of Rev. Dr. Dan Garrett; Peggy Gillich; Lawton MacDonald; Lisa Dawson; Marshall Carper; Lee Lichvar; Traci Wilson; Brady Hamilton (Greatorexes' grandson)

April 18

Russell Parrish – had kidney stone surgery; Judy Smith – had a heart ablation; Marcy Cormier; Katie Teets; Lawrence, who is homeless; Polly Look; Laurel Look; Jo-Ann Larrick; Gene Wise – had surgery on 4/16 and did well; Barbara Baltimore & family on the loss of Barbara's cousin Allison Finley-Harris

April 11

Karrie McCall; Barbara Baltimore; Shirley Dick; Helen Fitch; Todd Tatum; Marci (friend of Barbara Hoover)

***If you would like for us to lift up a prayer request, please call the office at 540-667-7298 or email csteele@kernstownumc.org. You can also place prayer request slips in the offering box in the sanctuary. These names will remain on this list for four weeks.*

Announcements

IN-PERSON WORSHIP – Reminder: in-person worship is back to starting at 10:20 a.m. Bring your mask and plan to social distance, along with following our other guidelines from the VA Conference. **GOOD NEWS! We are now permitted to softly SING!** If you are not able to attend or are not comfortable, you can watch the live stream online at 10:20 a.m. See you in church!

FAREWELL TO PASTOR AARON – For Pastor Aaron's last Sunday (June 27), we are planning to do a video montage of memories/thanks/well wishes, etc. Please submit photos of you and Aaron, events, etc. or a video saying thank you to Aaron or wishing him well so we can send him off with the best memories of Kernstown! Get your submissions in to David Landrum (dlandrum17@gmail.com) or text #770-714-1197) **no later than Sunday, June 13.**

PEOPLE IN MINISTRY – Each Sunday for the in-person worship service, we need greeters, a seating usher, and a lay person/reader. We'd love to have you help out! If interested, you can sign up on the white board in the narthex or simply call/email the church office.

UMW MEETING – UMW will meet on Tuesday, May 11, at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Program will be "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial." Bring your offering to the meeting.

WOMEN'S CORE GROUP – The Women's Disciple Study Group meets on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

MEN'S CORE GROUP MEETING – The Men's Core Group will meet on Tuesday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

TRUSTEES MEETING – The Trustees will meet on Wednesday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE PRESENTATIONS – Each year, KUMC presents Bibles to rising 3rd graders. With the pandemic and other factors, we have gotten off schedule, but would like to do this before Pastor Aaron moves at the end of June. We are planning a special presentation at the in-person worship services on Sunday, May 16, and Sunday, June 13. **If your child is a rising 3rd grader or has completed the 3rd grade but not yet received their Bible, please call or email the church office** so we can be sure to include them, and let us know which of the two Sundays you can attend for the presentation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – The Finance Committee will meet next Sunday, May 16, after the in-person worship service.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Submissions for our June newsletter are due next Monday, May 17, at 12 noon.

SPPRC MEETING – SPPRC will meet on Tuesday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

DAVID OFF – Director of Music and pianist/organist, David Landrum, will be off May 17 – June 1. We will have pre-recorded music at the in-person worship services during this time.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – Church Council will meet on Thursday, May 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

PASTOR AARON OFF – The Bishop has called for all clergy to have a "time apart for renewal" on Sunday, May 23, and Monday, May 24, which is Aldersgate Day. *"Aldersgate commemorates the day in 1738 when John Wesley experienced assurance of his salvation. Wesley reluctantly attended a group meeting that evening on Aldersgate Street in London. As he heard a reading from Luther's Preface to the Epistle to the Romans, he felt his 'heart strangely warmed'"* (from umc.org). We will have a guest speaker on May 23 for worship.

KUMC NEWTON SCHOLARSHIP – Letters of interest for the KUMC Newton Scholarship for graduating high school seniors who will be attending college/university/trade school this fall, are now being accepted! **Eligibility requirements for applicants include: a minimum of two years' membership at KUMC with regular church attendance. Involvement with KUMC ministries and Youth is also beneficial.** The letter must detail applicant's high school/college subjects taken, grade point average, and extra-curricular activities, along with the school in which matriculated for Fall 2021, college/trade program to be pursued, expected degree/certification, and any other information deemed important by the applicant. Two letters of personal reference should also be included. All materials are due to the church (mail, email, or deliver) **no later than June 1.**

ABBA CARE LIFE WALK & 4K FUN RUN – AbbaCare Pregnancy Resource Center here in Winchester is hosting the Shine for LIFE Walk & 4K Fun Run on Sunday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m. at Open Door Baptist Church in Clear Brook. Walk or run with a team or on your own. Can't make it or not comfortable attending a large gathering? Participate virtually instead to support AbbaCare in this vital fundraiser! Visit

abbacare.org/walk for more info or to register for the event and start getting pledges. You can also call them at 540-665-9660.



The flowers on the altar today are given in honor and in memory of our mothers, by the United Methodist Women.



CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES May 9 through May 16

Sunday, May 9

10:20 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary / Live Stream)
6:00 p.m. Banner Youth (FH)

Tuesday, May 11

10:00 a.m. UMW meeting (FH)
2:00 p.m. Women's Disciple Study Group (FH)
7:00 p.m. Men's Core Group meeting (ZOOM)

Wednesday, May 12

6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting (FH)

Thursday, May 13 – **Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Sunday, May 16 – **Children's Bible Presentations (1 of 2)**

10:20 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary / Live Stream)
11:15-ish Finance Committee meeting (FH)
6:00 p.m. Banner Youth (FH)

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF May 9th:
Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; and John 15:9-17

KERNSTOWN UMC
May 9, 2021
Text: Psalm 31:1-5 & 15-20
Title: God Makes a Great Mom
MOTHER'S DAY

Introduction

[RAMP] So, “**You Know You're a Mom When ...**

1. Your feet stick to the kitchen floor... and you don't care.
2. You spend an entire week wearing sweats.
3. You're willing to kiss your child's boo-boo, regardless of where it is.
4. Your baby's pacifier falls on the floor and you give it back to her, after you suck the dirt off of it because, ‘you're too busy to wash it off.’ⁱ

[RELEVANCE] Moms deserve our honor, and so today we give God thanks for providing us with Moms who have given birth and those Moms who have not.

Body

[CONTEXT] **Psalm 31 is a Psalm that reveals the character of God. “It can be divided into five parts: 1) a confident petition for help, 2) a prayer of supplication, 3) a petition for deliverance, 4) a short praise and 5) a liturgical doxology.** Except for the final doxology, the psalm is intensely personal.”ⁱⁱ Listen to King David’s confidence as he begins this Psalm:

¹In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

²Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

³You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake lead me and guide me,

⁴take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

⁵Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

⁶ You hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD.

⁷ I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have taken heed of my adversities,

“**In this first section, the psalmist asked YHWH for help. The singer asked for refuge from his enemies, and there was a certain air of expectation that God would hear his plea. Notice the term “rock” in 31:2-3; the petition “Be my rock” became the statement “you are my rock and my fortress.” This evoked a mountainous terrain where the rock and fortress lie in the heights, the place of divine encounter.**”ⁱⁱⁱ King David had a relationship with God, and so he knew from personal experience that he could trust in God. Jesus, God the Son,

had a relationship with God the Father and God the Spirit, and therefore had confidence that God would take care of Him.

As kids, we too have confidence that Mom will help us out. My cousin Linda was watching me once - babysitting- and I didn't like something she said. She said, "No." So, I told her I was going to call my Mom. So I walked over to the kitchen table, grabbed a chair, dragged it over to the phone, climbed up on the chair, called my Mom at work, and told my Mom what my cousin Linda said. I was confident my Mom would see my side and tell cousin Linda to back off. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. I was told to do what I was told and listen to Linda. I was not happy. We have confidence in our Moms that they will help us out because they love us.

In Psalm 31:9-13, King David tells God why he is in despair. More and more enemies have come forward against him. King David needs the help of God.

Psalm 31:14-20, King David reminds himself why he can have hope in God. King David says:

¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

¹⁷Do not let me be put to shame, O Lord, for I call on you; let the wicked be put to shame; let them go dumbfounded to Sheol.

¹⁸Let the lying lips be stilled that speak insolently against the righteous with pride and contempt.

¹⁹O how abundant is your goodness that you have laid up for those who fear you, and accomplished for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of everyone!

²⁰In the shelter of your presence you hide them from human plots; you hold them safe under your shelter from contentious tongues.

Did you notice King David mentions God's hand twice in verse 15, "¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors." This is important. Listen to Geoff McElroy explain, "The image of "hand" (Hebrew: *yad*) is important in Psalm 31; the term appears four times. The first time it appears, it is in the verse famously quoted in Luke's account of Jesus' crucifixion: "Into your [God's] hand I commit my spirit" (v. 5). In verse 8, which is not part of our lection for this Sunday, the psalmist notes that God has not "delivered me into the hand of the enemy [Hebrew: '*oyev*]." **This hand imagery is repeated in verse 15, putting God's hand in parallel opposition to the hand of "my enemies [Hebrew: '*oyevai*] and persecutors."**

This imagery of refuge and God's hand; these are signs of protection and providence, in which the psalmist is laying their hope and trust. **This movement from complaint to confession of trust is characteristic of most lament psalms. In this case, the shift takes place at verse 14 with the "But I trust..." The psalmist moves from complaint and petition for refuge and help to confidence in God's ability to fulfill the request.** Thus, the psalmist can confidently declare that their "time," that is their destiny and outcome is ultimately in God's hand and control, and thus God can deliver the psalmist from the hand and control of their enemies.^{21v}

God is going to move to help God's children. Moms do the same thing for their children. Moms do whatever they have to in order to help their children. **If you want to get a Mom angry, then say something or do something bad to their child. Even the most mild-mannered woman will rise up and threaten to hurt you.**

King David can trust in God's help because he knows God. Listen to all of the characteristics of God he lists in Psalm 31. **"Psalm 31 makes it clear that David knew God in a personal, practical, and deep way before he got into this crisis.** Note the many attributes of God that David recites throughout the psalm:

- God is a refuge and shelter (vv. 1, 19, 20).
- He is righteous (v. 1) and will judge righteously (v. 23).
- He is a rock of strength (vv. 2, 3).
- He hears and answers prayer (vv. 2, 22).
- He is a stronghold and fortress (vv. 2, 3).
- David's source of strength (v. 4).
- He is the God of truth (v. 5).
- God of lovingkindness (vv. 7, 16, 21).
- He is all-knowing (v. 7).
- God is gracious (v. 9), in that He forgives and doesn't cast off the rejected (implied in vv. 9-13).
- He has unlimited storehouses of goodness for those who fear Him (v. 19)."^v

King David can hope in God because God is good, and he knew God. **Psalm 31 reveals the character of God.**

[APPLICATION] What does Psalm 31 teach us about honoring our Moms? Our Moms taught us how to live right. Jesus too teaches us how to live right even when our Moms can't any longer. As we live like Jesus, we will honor our Moms. We honor our Moms as we live like Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

"His whole career, indeed his very being, was motivated by the prayer, "not my will but thine be done."

Time and time again Jesus told his disciples that his life and his purpose were entirely directed by God. In a very real sense, Jesus is the perfect example of a life lived in accordance with God's ways, and God's truth:

- being faithful in relationships, loving in a way that never quits, working to set things right;
- being humble enough to seek God's direction in all of life;
- entrusting oneself to God's goodness and steadfast love and faithfulness, and being willing to take the risk of following God's ways;
- "waiting" for God—sometimes rather loudly, but also quietly and patiently;
- living in harmony with God's will—with God's justice and mercy and love; and
- embracing the supreme act of humility by giving ourselves away in sacrificial love as he did.

Jesus' death on the cross was the culmination of an entire life entrusted to the faithful God! His death was but the ultimate act of trust in a whole lifetime of obedient trust. Jesus died to show us how to *live*—how to live a life of ultimate trust, a life that is wholly and completely entrusted to God. May God grant us courage to follow his example and entrust ourselves wholly and completely to the faithful God as our savior Jesus the Christ did.”^{vi} Jesus lived a selfless life where He did whatever God the Father wanted Him to do. Our Moms lived a selfless life for our benefit. They put our needs before their own. We honor our Moms when we put the needs of others before our own. In short, we honor our Moms when we live like Jesus for God's glory.

Conclusion

[DESSERT] “Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them:

I loved you enough to ask where you are going, with whom, and what time you would be home.

I loved you enough to insist that you save your money and buy a bike for yourself even though I could afford to buy one for you.

I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a jerk.

I loved you enough to make you pay for the toy you had taken and tell the clerk, "I stole this yesterday, and I want to pay for it."

I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes.

I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children should know that their parents aren't perfect.

I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh, they almost broke my heart.

But most of all, I loved you enough to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it. ... Those were the most difficult battles of all. I am glad I won them, because in the end, you won too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.”^{vii}

[GOOD NEWS] God has provided us with Moms. Moms are people who love unconditionally, forgive us when we make mistakes, encourage us when we think we can't, cheer us on when we achieve anything, and put our needs before our own. We honor Moms because they can show us characteristics of God. We honor Moms because they can show us Jesus. Praise God. Amen.

ⁱ <http://www.humormatters.com/holidays/mothersday.htm#You Know>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/Psalms/31.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/Psalms/31.html>

^{iv} <http://gmcclroy.typepad.com/desertscribblings/2008/04/april-20-2008-.html>

^v Steven J. Cole. <https://bible.org/seriespage/psalm-31-remedy-stress>

^{vi} <http://thewakingdreamer.blogspot.com/2009/07/ultimate-trust-ps-319-16-philippians-25.html>

^{vii} <http://www.humormatters.com/holidays/mothersday.htm#You Know>