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**Meeting Time**  
Sunday at 10:30 Worship

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: [www.aptopresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.aptopresbyterianchurch.org)

Welcome and Announcement

\*Call to Worship (Responsive)

(by Austin D. Hill)

What does the Holy One require of us?  
***To be just, kind, and humble before God.***  
Give thanks to God with your whole heart.  
***Great are the works of the Lord.***  
Now faith, hope, and love abide;  
***And the greatest of these is love.***  
***LET US WORSHIP GOD!***

\*Hymn 169

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

***Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.***

***In simple trust like theirs  
who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.***

***O Sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share  
with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!***

***Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain  
and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.  
Breathe through the heats  
of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb,***

*let flesh retire;*

*Speak through the earthquake,  
wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm!*

Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

*We come seeking God in mighty earthquakes.  
We come listening for God in resounding thunder.  
We come expecting God in sweeping victories.  
Yet God is found in a baby's touch.  
Yet God speaks in silence.  
Yet God is found in the least of these.  
Save us, O God, from our aimless wandering.  
Save us, O God, from our idols.  
Save us, O God, from our self-induced chaos.  
God, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.  
Amen.*

*(Time for silent reflection)*

Assurance of Grace

Hear the good news of God's love for us; not in the earthquake, not in the storms, not in the mighty deeds but in the silence, in the gentle touch, in the quiet rain God says, again, "You are my Beloved. I love you."

Response: "**Glory Be To The Father**"

Special Music

"Prayer for Peace" by Jon Raybould

Coty Catlin and Eileen Mihm

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

\*Hymn 181

"Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit"

*"Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit,"  
cried God's healing, Holy One.  
"Cease your ranting!  
Flesh can't bear it.  
Flee as night before the sun."*

*At Christ's voice  
the demon trembled,  
from its victim madly rushed,*

*While the crowd  
that was assembled  
stood in wonder, stunned,  
and hushed.*

*Lord, the demons still are thriving  
in the gray cells of the mind:  
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,  
twisted thoughts that grip  
and bind,*

*Doubts that stir the heart to panic,*

*fears distorting reason's sight,  
guilt that makes our loving frantic,  
dreams that cloud the soul  
with fright.*

*Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit,  
in our mind and in our heart.  
Speak your word that  
when we hear it  
all our demons shall depart.*

*Clear our thought and calm  
our feeling;  
still the fractured, warring soul.  
By the power of your healing  
make us faithful, true, and whole.*

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

(Jenny Child, Celtic Prayers, 2008)

*Lord God, refresh us with living water,  
Illuminate our path with your light,  
Speak to us with the still small voice  
And calm the storms of our lives with your peace. Amen.*

First Lesson:

1 Kings 19:1-4,8-15a

<sup>1</sup>Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup> Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." <sup>3</sup> Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

<sup>4</sup> But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."

<sup>8</sup> He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. <sup>9</sup> At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup> He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, <sup>12</sup> and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

<sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup> Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

<sup>26</sup> Then they arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me,” <sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Sermon

“Discipleship: Not Following the Crowd”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

\*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

(by Lisa Frenz, Mt. Carmel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Portland, Oregon)

*Into the silence of the void the Creator spoke,  
and the world came into being.  
The Word of God in the vastness brought light from darkness,  
matter from nothing, flesh from dust, life from lifelessness.*

*In the quiet of a small town in Palestine  
the Word of God came to us.  
Even though of one being with the Creator,  
Jesus our Christ, taking on human form, was born,  
lived and walked among us,  
speaking the words of life.  
He was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He rose from the dead and speaks to us today.  
He is the one who saves us from ourselves.*

*In the stillness of our souls the Spirit of God,  
who is one with the Creator and the Christ,  
whispers the Word,  
and calls us back to the Creator,  
back to the Christ,  
back to the wholeness of everlasting life  
in the unity of the Creator, Christ and Spirit.*

Offertory

“Classical Flute Duet” by Francios Devienne

Coty Catlin and Eileen Mihm

Doxology

Offering Prayer (Unison)

*Healing God, use these gifts to mend the hearts of those who have followed earthly demons. You have the ability to mend our insecurities – our greed, our self-indulgence, our prejudice, and our fear. You alone can nurture our souls. May these worshipful moments renew our desire to follow you and to reject the power of the crowd. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who restores and reconciles disciples. Amen.*

\*Hymn 824

“There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

*There is a place of quiet rest,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where sin cannot molest,  
near to the heart of God.*

*O Jesus, blest Redeemer,  
sent from the heart of God,  
hold us, who wait before thee,  
near to the heart of God.*

*There is a place of comfort sweet,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where we our Savior meet,  
near to the heart of God.*

*O Jesus, blest Redeemer,  
sent from the heart of God,  
hold us, who wait before thee,  
near to the heart of God.*

*There is a place of full release,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where all is joy and peace,  
near to the heart of God.*

*O Jesus, blest Redeemer,  
sent from the heart of God,  
hold us, who wait before thee,  
near to the heart of God.*

Benediction