



David and Nathan, Jacobus Buys, 1734

## UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday May 2, 2021

**Welcome and intro to Zoom worship** – Ben Wideman

**Prelude video** – *Bubble*, by Garrett Moshier

**Call to worship** – Ben Wideman

(with help from Walter Brueggemann)

**Peace lamp**

**Children's time** – Amy Sattler

**Offering prayer**

**Sermon and scripture** – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Selections from 2 Samuel 11:1, 2 Samuel 12: 25

read by Doug Yoder

*In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.*

*It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'*

*So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey.*

*Why did you not go down to your house?’ Uriah said to David, ‘The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.’ Then David said to Uriah, ‘Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.’ So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.*

*In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, ‘Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.’ As Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant warriors. The men of the city came out and fought with Joab; and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite was killed as well. Then Joab sent and told David all the news about the fighting.*

*So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Joab had sent him to tell.*

*When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.*

*But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, ‘There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.’ Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, ‘As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.’*

*Nathan said to David, ‘You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master’s house, and your master’s wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.’ David said to Nathan, ‘I have sinned against the Lord.’ Nathan said to David, ‘Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die. Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the Lord, the child that is born to you shall die.’ Then Nathan went to his house.*

*The Lord struck the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and it became very ill. David therefore pleaded with God for the child; David fasted, and went in and lay all night on the ground.*

*‘While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, “Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me, and the child may live.” But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.’*

*Then David consoled his wife Bathsheba, and went to her, and lay with her; and she bore a son, and he named him Solomon. The Lord loved him, and sent a message by the prophet Nathan; so he named him Jedidiah, because of the Lord.*

**Sermon response – How Long by The Porter’s Gate**

**Sharing time – Pastor Kate**

**Announcements, birthdays, & introduction of visitors**

**Benediction**

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## Announcements

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**Adult Sunday School** – Today we continue the second week of our six-week series on Lamenting Racism, *The Air We Breathe, Understanding Racism's Persuasive Power*, led by Sophia Osiero and Joel Weidner. Join us at 11 am using the same link as for worship.

Next Sunday our guest speaker will be **Conrad Kanagy**. [Read Conrad's bio at Herald press by clicking here.](#) Conrad will also lead a discussion during the Sunday School hour.

**Wednesday sharing and prayer time** - Join us Wednesdays at noon for a time of scripture, prayer, and an opportunity to share more fully with one another. The Zoom meeting link will be distributed via our email list.

If you're interested in attending the **mindful meditation sessions** on Monday evenings and Thursday or Friday mornings, contact [Kate](#), as times and dates vary.

**Plowshare Produce** welcomes everyone to join them for weekly Volunteer Thursdays beginning April 15. Each day, there will be a variety of farm tasks from 9:30-12, followed by a simple, outdoor gluten-free and vegan lunch. Bring your mask, water, garden gloves and raingear (if needed), and come for as long as you like. Please let us know by Wednesday evening if you are coming, by emailing [HERE](#).

**Walnut Springs habitat restoration work** continues on Thursday, May 13 from 2-4 pm. Mark your calendars!

**Out of the Cold** - UMC is scheduled to host OOTC in our building June 14-27. Consider how you might support this important work of providing meals and fellowship with the vulnerable in our community experiencing homelessness.

**Centre County Community Conferencing** is a restorative justice initiative that offers three distinct programs: neighborhood dispute resolution, court diversion, and reentry support. Community Conferencing puts power back into the hands of individuals, allowing them to create a mutually beneficial resolution to a given conflict that is approved by everyone involved. Want to become a volunteer facilitator or learn more? Contact Elizabeth Siegelman [HERE](#).

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## Announcements (cont.)

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**Field Language: The Painting and Poetry of Warren and Jane Rohrer** is a special exhibition at Palmer Museum of Art through May. This gorgeous collection invites viewers to contemplate issues of land use, the resilience of rural communities and cultures, and our relationship with agriculture, seasonal change, labor, and the land. The exhibition is free but tickets must be reserved [here](#). As part of the exhibit, Julia Kasdorf beautifully reads aloud some of Jane's poetry.

**Calling All Bikers** - You are invited to join 19 riders from the **Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions** (July 24-28) for the last segment of their 2-month trip ride across the country, promoting climate solutions. You will ride 326 miles along the renowned Great Allegheny Passage and the C&O Canal Towpath, culminating in the last day event in Washington DC, visiting senators and representatives to express how the journey affected their concern for climate change. CSCS Director of Pastoral Ecology, Doug Kaufman, will lead reflections during this 5-day journey, as the group learns together what it means to faithfully respond to the climate crisis. Interested? Sign up [HERE](#).

**Everence Updates** - In 2020, our church was able to increase financial aid to Park Forest Preschool by \$1,750 and to Bridge of Hope by \$500 because of Everence matching grants. Each year Everence calculates how much grant money we receive. The amount is determined by the percentage of persons in our church who use an Everence product and how active the advocate is. Last year and this year the total was \$2,250. Because we did not use these matching funds for any individual emergency needs in the congregation, they were allocated to the above programs. Please contact me if you have any questions about this or questions about Everence Financial. I will be introducing information/products they offer in future announcements. Blessings, Doug Yoder, Everence advocate. [dv83yoder@gmail.com](mailto:dv83yoder@gmail.com), (814) 933-6896.

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## Announcements (cont.)

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**Missed worship?** Our Zoom worship services are recorded and can be watched on our website by clicking [HERE](#).

**Need help?** We are a community with talents, tools, and a willingness to serve each other. If you need some extra help - gathering groceries, doing yard work, etc., let Kate know. There are some here who might be able to lend a hand.

**Financial struggles?** As you continue to live into the realities of COVID-19, please let Kate or one of the [elders](#) know if you are living with financial uncertainty and could use some help. UMC, in partnership with [Everence](#), has funds available to help those in need.

**Your offerings support UMC** – Don't forget to support UMC with your financial gifts during this time of remote gatherings. You can make your offering the following ways:

- Mail a check to the church to the attention of our treasurer, 1606 Norma Street, State College PA, 16801
- [Donate on the church website](#)
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like [Zelle](#)

Questions? Contact Jim Rosenberger [JLRosenberger@gmail.com](mailto:JLRosenberger@gmail.com)

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## CHURCH INFORMATION

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1606 Norma St., State College, PA 16801; (814) 234-2039

[www.universitymennonite.org](http://www.universitymennonite.org)

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

**Submissions for bulletin:** [bulletin@universitymennonite.org](mailto:bulletin@universitymennonite.org)

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Fridays at noon (for virtual services)

### Staff and Volunteer Leadership

Pastor: Kate Heinzl, [kate@universitymennonite.org](mailto:kate@universitymennonite.org) 717-606-2909

Worship Coordinator:

Ben Wideman, [benwideman@gmail.com](mailto:benwideman@gmail.com) 215-859-0037

Elders

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Cong. Chair: Rick Stehouwer, [rsc15@psu.edu](mailto:rsc15@psu.edu) 814-883-3503

Asst. Chair: Cathy Bresee, [cbs4@psu.edu](mailto:cbs4@psu.edu) 814-933-8005

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**University Mennonite Church's safe-child policy** demonstrates our commitment to the physical safety and the spiritual growth of all our children and youth, ages birth to 18, as well as to our volunteers who care for them. The complete policy is posted in the lobby entrances and in the nursery room.

**Our church maintains a Google Group email list to keep members informed about prayer requests and happenings in the community.** Join the email list by sending an email to:

[university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Zoom church services** are being recorded and published on our [YouTube channel](#). You can also view service videos and listen to audio recordings at on our website at:

<http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>