welcome

We hope and fully expect that you'll encounter God this morning and even meet a few warm-hearted people as well.

You can expect the service to last around an hour and a half.

reservoir families

We're excited about your kids! We have designed special programs and services just for them that happen concurrently with the main service. Kids are also always welcome in the main services.

today's service

OPFNING SONG

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

Rev. Mariama White-Hammond

WORSHIP

An opportunity to take Communion, receive prayer in the back of the Sanctuary, and participate in musical worship.



Welcome!

get connected

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August 6, 2017

10:30am

1 Kings 21 (NIV)

Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. The vineyard was in Jezreel, close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. ² Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth."

- ³ But Naboth replied, "The Lord forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my ancestors."
- ⁴So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my ancestors." He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat.
- ⁵ His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?"
- ⁶ He answered her, "Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'"
- ⁷ Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."
- ⁸ So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, placed his seal on them, and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city with him. ⁹ In those letters she wrote:

"Proclaim a day of fasting and seat Naboth in a prominent place among the people. ¹⁰ But seat two scoundrels opposite him and have them bring charges that he has cursed both God and the king. Then take him out and stone him to death."

¹¹ So the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city did as Jezebel directed in the letters she had written to them. ¹² They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth in a prominent place among the people ¹³ Then two scoundrels came and sat opposite him and brought charges against Naboth before the people, saying, "Naboth has cursed both God and the king." So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death. ¹⁴ Then they sent word to Jezebel: "Naboth has been stoned to death."

¹⁵ As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you. He is no longer alive, but dead." ¹⁶ When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth's vineyard.

Leviticus 25:23 (ESV)

23 "The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine. For you are strangers and sojourners with me.

Fourth in the Series, "Faith in a Time of Empire"
How the Issue of Empire and Injustice Plays Out on a Global
Scale and in our Own Lives
REV. MARIAMA WHITE-HAMMOND

Notes	
1)	Ask yourself if you're functioning from a place of stewardship or ownership.
2)	See if you can go after the story of we, not just the story of me.
3)	Keep asking God if God wants something bigger, better, and more just than what you want.