

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, January 7, 2024

Leader in Worship: Kenneth Yearick, Pastor

Music Accompanist: Jennifer Miller

311 Main Street / P O Box 205 / Pollocksville, NC 28573

www.PollocksvillePresbyterian.org

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The Session & Committee Chairs for 2023

Clerk of Session: Jay Bender	(252-224-6201)	jaybender@ec.rr.com	
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Presbyterian Men Moderator - Jeremy LeRay	(252-474-7678)	jdleray@gmail.com	

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church
Epiphany Sunday
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

January 7, 2024

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Christmas is known as a season of giving – offering gifts to others in the love of Christ. Yet we like, the Magi of old, present our gifts only in response to the greatest gift of love given to us by God in the birth of Jesus, God Incarnate. Signs of that great gift are all around us – “stars” shining in everyday life, leading us to recognize God’s power, presence, and intervention, causing us to worship. Star Gifts remind us that God is still at work offering us the gifts we need as we follow Jesus each day. You will receive your star gift from the ushers as you leave today. As you receive your gift, consider how you may use it this year. Post it in a prominent place at home or work, and then let your Star Gift shine! Remember, the gift of Jesus is not meant just for your personal benefit; it is meant to help us be the light of Christ to the world.

Call to Worship *(Responsively)*

Leader: On that first day, when time began: you gave birth to creation;

People: **light danced through the darkness; the waters of hope flowed free and clear.**

Leader: On that first day at the Jordan, when redemption began: you spoke of life for all your children,

People: **as your Child stepped into the waters of forgiveness, dancing in hope with his cousin, John.**

Leader: On this first day of the week, when we begin anew: you call us to faithfulness,

People: **as we open our hearts to you, your voice claiming us as your own.**

Prayer of Invocation

~ Liturgist

*Passing the Peace

Leader: ...The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”
The Presbyterian Hymnal

(v. 1,5)

#66

Call to Confession

~ Pastor Yearick

The coming of Christ was not, and is not, widely welcomed. Wherever there is epiphany there will also be darkness: the darkness of old superstitions and dogmas which refuse to fade away easily; the darkness of pride in the half-truths that have masqueraded as wisdom; the darkness of entrenched evil that hates the light and tries to dispose of it; the darkness of apathy that cannot be bothered to open the shutters; in that vein, let us make our confession together, and then take a moment for silent reflection – Let us pray

Unison Prayer of Confession

Most holy and most loving God, we admit to you and to each other, that we are creatures who either through foolishness or wilfulness often choose darkness instead of light. Here and now we surrender to you our fears and proud opinions, our short-sighted folly and our pompous wisdom, our deep-seated sins and our apathy towards change and renewal. Please forgive the darkness and pain we have inflicted on others, and restore the light-starved hopes and ideals within our own souls.

Trusting your grace, we earnestly pray: “Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.” Through Christ Jesus our aviator. Amen!

Silence is Kept

Assurance of God’s Grace

~ Pastor Yearick

My friends, Epiphany is good news! The Light comes not to sear and blind us but to save us. Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners. In his name I declare to you: Yours sins are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

~ Choir

Service of Ordination and Installation of Elders

Cheryl Coeyman and Bob Mattocks

Prayer for Illumination

~ Pastor Yearick

Scripture

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV)

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Message "*Looking Through the Mirror or Through the Windshield?*" ~ Pastor Ken Yearick

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

~ *Pastor Yearick*

*Hymn of Preparation

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

#359

The Presbyterian Hymnal

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also, with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Consecration

The Institution

The Communion for the People of God

Prayer of Thanksgiving

~ *Pastor Yearick*

*Closing Hymn

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

#63

The Presbyterian Hymnal

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

*Please rise in body or spirit / **Bold:** Congregation Speaks

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone who is worshiping with us today.



Prayer List Additions as of 12/31/2023

Neighbor, Barbara, is still in the hospital and doing some better but unable to go see her father, Mr. Bill, who is in hospice (Ed Valentine); Prayers for Lori Davis & family - cousin had massive heart attack before Christmas & passed away (Ed Valentine); Marie, a friend of the Jekel's- is battling stage 4 cancer (Noreen); Many people need prayers - several friends with struggles: Becky and Arnold Hines; friend's daughter has cancer; friend had a stroke; and Jean Bender has difficulty breathing; (Mary Ann LeRay)

Prayers for Our Nation; Our Military; Our Church; PPC Childcare

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress. These names will remain on this list for 3 weeks.



January: Rebecca Long & Diane McCaffity

A new year is here and ushers are needed for 2024.

Please contact John Bender at 252-675-8431 or email: jmbender1991@gmail.com



Reminders & Announcements

Sunday Mornings: 11:00 am – Worship in the Church Sanctuary & Streaming Live on Facebook & on PPC Website

Sundays at 9:45 am Adult Sunday School – Remember your Bibles!

Children's Sunday School at 11 am

Wednesdays

6 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, January 7th

5 pm Session Meeting

Monday, January 15th

Church Office & Childcare Closed – MLK HOLIDAY

7 pm Women's Circle Meeting

at the Home of Jean Bender, Hostess

Study Leader for Lesson 4: Hilda Bender

Sunday, January 28th

8 am Men's Breakfast – Team 2, Cook

Building Fund Sunday

4 pm Commissioning Service for Pastor Ken Yearick



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 1:1-5 and Psalm 29; 1 Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Daily Readings for January 7 - 13 use the following web link:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-Daily-Full-Year.pdf>