

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



March 19, 2023

Leader in Worship: The Reverend Gary Howell

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

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Presbyterian Men Moderator -	Jeremy LeRay (252-474-7678) jdleray@gmail.com	

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday in Lent

Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

March 19, 2023

"May the Lord bless the people with peace."

In reverent silence, prepare your hearts and minds to worship God.

Prelude

"Be Unto Your Name" ~ Gary Sadler

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Leader: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

People: **You shall love the Lord our God, and your neighbor as yourself.**

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it;

People: **the world, and those who live in it.**

Leader: O praise the Lord with me,

People: **let us exalt God's name together.**

Prayer of Invocation

~ Liturgist

*The Peace of Christ

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

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

#473

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness; through Jesus Christ the light of the world...

Silent Prayers

Anthem

"Shepherd Me, O God" ~ Marty Haugen

~ Choir

Prayer for Illumination

~ Rev. Howell

Scripture

Old Testament Psalm 23 (RSV)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want; ² he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; ³ he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. ⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

New Testament John 9: 1-41 (RSV)

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." ¹⁰ They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this, and they said to him, "Are we also blind?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains.

Sermon

~ Rev. Gary Howell

*Hymn of Response

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#376

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

*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.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory "You Are My Hiding Place" ~ *Michael Ledner*

*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 (*Unison*)

Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept this offering with the dedication of our lives and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "A Charge to Keep I Have" #536
Sing to the Lord Hymnal

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" ~ *Palmer*
Please rise in body or spirit / **Bold: Congregation Speaks*

Welcome!

to everyone who is worshiping with us today.

~ Thank You to Rev. Gary Howell for filling the pulpit this morning ~

~ Next Sunday, March 26th ~

~ Rev. Sid Batts will be filling the pulpit ~



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 16:1-13 and Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Daily Readings for March 19 – 25 use the following web link:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/lectionary/>



Prayer List Additions as of 3-12-2023

Grand Penny's nurse Jennifer is having surgery for cancer (Janet Purvis); Jerry Burkot had kidney stones removed and has a way to go (Ed Valentine); Preacher's family needs a new place to live (Rev. Konigsmark); Prayers for Michael for pain and health issues (Cheryl Coeyman); Penny Bender; Ed & Thelma Edmondson; Prayers for Our Nation; Our Military; Our Church; PPC Childcare and Staff

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress.



March – Jerry Burkot & Blair Purvis

April – John Bender & Dana Bender



Announcements & Reminders

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, March 26th

8 am Men's Breakfast – Team 3 Cook

Building Fund Sunday

Sunday, April 2nd

Palm Sunday

Gideons – Minute for Mission during Morning Worship

5 pm Session

Thursday, April 6th

7 pm Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

Friday, April 7th

Good Friday – Church Office and Childcare CLOSED

Sunday, April 9th

EASTER – Flowering the Cross prior to 11 am service

A message from Ed Valentine:

Miracles Recounted by Ministers (CD set/4 disks)

In 1995 just before Joan and I moved to New Bern I had the opportunity to interview and record Ministers who had firsthand experience of divine intervention – God's Holy Spirit. I made two sets of 4 CD's so the congregation can easily hear these stories. Why 4 CD's? These powerful testimonies need your full, quiet time to feel the Lord's presence. I purposely separated the stories so each CD can be another day to look forward to quiet time with the Lord. Please email or call Frances in the church office to be placed on the waiting list.