

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, July 23, 2023

***Leader in Worship: Stephen Mabie
Music Accompanist: Jennifer Miller***

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

www.PollocksvillePresbyterian.org

(252) 224-8181



The Session & Committee Chairs for 2023

Clerk of Session: Jay Bender	(252-224-6201)	jaybender@ec.rr.com	
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Ed Valentine, <i>Missions</i>	(252-617-8278)	W2YPM@earthlink.net	[Class of 2023]
Presbyterian Men Moderator -	Jeremy LeRay	(252-474-7678)	jdleray@gmail.com

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

July 23, 2023

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsively*) (*Psalm 139, Selected verses*)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You discern my thoughts from far away.

People: **You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways**

Leader: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from presence?

All: **Search me, O God, and know my heart. See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.**

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.**

*Hymn of Praise

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

#487

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Before you, O God, all mysteries are revealed. We hide things from others and even from ourselves, but you have searched our hearts. You know our every thought and intention. Our faith is weak when you call upon us to be strong. Our attention is distracted when you ask us to focus. When you call for unity among your followers, we are drawn to conflict. When you ask us to comfort one another, we can't wait to criticize. Forgive our pettiness and our self-centeredness. Grant us the heart of a Servant of Jesus Christ, in whose name we make this prayer.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardon

~ Steve Mabie

Friends, always God has His ear bent in our direction. Always He hears even the slightest murmur of Confession from us. The cloak of Forgiveness secured for us in Christ Jesus surrounds us. Know that Grace in your heart. Let go of any sense of self-centeredness and self-criticism. God honors the prayer of the faithful servant. Through the nail-scarred hands of Christ, our forgiveness is proclaimed! AMEN

Anthem

“Psalm 23” – *Kaplan* ~ *Evie Afflerbach, Soprano*

*Hymn of Preparation

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

#439

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Prayer for Illumination

~ Steve Mabie

Scriptures

Old Testament Scripture Reading: Genesis 28:10-19 (NIV)

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.” ¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

New Testament Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (NIV)

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷ “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸ “An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ²⁹ “No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. ⁴⁰"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Sermon

"Jacob - An Unlikely Candidate"

~ Steve Mabie

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

*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

~ Steve Mabie

*Hymn of Devotion

"Take My Life"
The Presbyterian Hymnal

#391

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

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

Welcome!

to everyone who is worshiping with us today.

Thank You!

Steve Mabie to for filling the pulpit this morning!

Next Sunday, July 30th ~ Rev. Barbara Hager will fill PPC's pulpit



Prayer List Additions since 7-16-2023

*Dana Bender's grandfather Herbert Willis passed away (Mark Bender);
Cheryl's mother Betty - prayers for blood pressure control (Cheryl Coeyman);
Prayers for Christine Adams, Carol Nelson's sister who is undergoing carotid artery surgery;
Prayers for Vickie Bell and Family in the loss of her mother, Lucy Banks;
Please keep Ed and Thelma in your prayers; Prayers for Ms. Penny Bender;
Prayers for Our Nation; Our Military; Our Church; PPC Childcare.*

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress.



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 44:6-8 and Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Daily Readings for July 23 – 29 use the following web link:

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

Today is *Building Fund Sunday*.

All contributions given, unless otherwise designated, will go the Church Building Fund.

USHERS & GREETERS

July – Rebecca Long and Diane McCaffity

Ushers needed for August and September – Contact John Bender if you can help.

Cell: 252-675-8431 or email: jmbender1991@gmail.com

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**

Wednesday, July 26  6 pm Choir Practice

Wednesdays in August NO Choir Practice

Sunday, August 6 Communion during Morning Worship
5 pm Session Meeting

Thursday, August 10 4:30 pm Childcare Meeting

Monday, August 14 7 pm Presbyterian Women’s Circle Meeting

Hostess Penny Bender – *meeting will be at Ms. Penny’s home*

Conclusion of this year’s study on the Sabbath and the introduction of the upcoming study

Sunday, August 20 Hot Dog and Sundae Social - *see announcement below*

Sunday, August 27 8 am Men’s Breakfast – Team 1 – cook
Building Fund Sunday
5 pm Finance Committee Meeting



Sunday, August 20th

It’s almost time for our summer celebration!

AUGUST 20 - following the service

HOTDOG AND ICE CREAM SUNDAE...SUNDAY!

Put it on your calendar!

Hotdogs with all the fixings, and ice cream sundae with all the trimmings!

Gather with your church family for fun and good food!

Sponsored by your Congregation Care Team!