

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



January 3, 2021

Leader in Worship: Jay Bender

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

www.PollocksvillePresbyterian.org

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The Session & Committee Chairs for 2020

Moderator: Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV	(931-334-1264)	<u>twes.moore@pollocksvillepresbyterian.org</u>	
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Presbyterian Men Moderator - Jeremy LeRay	(252-474-7678)	<u>jdlaray@gmail.com</u>	

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

January 3, 2021

Prelude "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" ~ Buxtehude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Leader: This past year, we found ourselves on a different road,

People: **yet we still look for that Baby born long ago in Bethlehem.**

Leader: This year, we are worshiping in different ways,

People: **yet we still look for that Child of Christmas who gifts the needy with hope, who sets free the oppressed.**

Leader: This year, we gather in different places,

People: **yet we still long to find the One who has come for us, even as we remain apart from those we love so much.**

Prayer of Invocation

*The Peace of Christ

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

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

"Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"

See Insert

Unison Prayer of Forgiveness

If we turned toward the Light you offer, Creator of stars, we would find the road you want us to travel. But we are more comfortable on those shadowed streets of seduction we know all too well. We find it so easy to walk down the familiar roads of foolishness, turning our backs on those You would have us love, and ignoring the map You give us We can drive down the roads of rebellion with our eyes closed. We continue to play hopscotch with hate and fear on the sidewalks placed along the paths of prejudice. Have mercy on us, Shaper of universes as well as our lives. How foolish we are to continue to take the easy paths, rather than that road of justice, that road of hope, that road of forgiveness that are less traveled in these days. May we be like those wise ones of so long ago, who found grace, salvation, and you by following that different road of faith which lead them to that Child called Jesus, who would guide them and the rest of us, from that moment on. Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Open your eyes! The Light has come to all of us, to each of us.
The Light of justice, the Light of love, the Light of life.

People: **This Light is not just for us, so we will carry it to everyone we meet, as we travel down the different road of faith in our lives. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen**

Anthem

“Carol of the Star”

arr. D. Moore

~ Rebecca Long & Jennifer Miller

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 1: 1-18 (New International Version)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Sermon

“Reaching for the Invisible God”

~ Jay Bender

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.

*Closing Hymn

"I Danced in the Morning" (*Lord of the Dance*)

See Insert

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

"Wexford Carol"

arr. Collinsworth

*Please rise in body or spirit
Bold: Congregation Speaks



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 31:7-14 and Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1(1-9) 10-18

Daily Readings for January 3 – 9 use the following web link:

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/devotions/month-month-lectionary-reading-list/>

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Sunday, January 10th

**11 am During Morning Worship – Ordination & Installation of Officers
and Communion**

Immediately following Morning Worship – Session Meeting

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Prayer List as of 1-3-2021

*The Family of Amiel Bryan (requested by Mary Ann LeRay), Cheryl & Mike Coeyman,
The Family of Shirley Eubanks, Clyde Murphy, Jr., (requested by Mary Ann LeRay),
Blair Purvis, The Family of Anita Tweed (requested by Laura Smith Burton), Edward Valentine,
Those in Assisted Living Facilities, Vaccine Distribution.*

Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem

Adger M. Pace

R. Fisher Boyce

G D/A G/B C G

1. O beau-ti-ful Star of Beth-le-hem, shin-ing a-far thro' shad-ows dim,
 2. O beau-ti-ful Star, the hope of light, guid-ing the pil-grim thro' the night,
 3. O beau-ti-ful Star, the hope of rest, for the re-deemed, the good and blest,

Em D D/A D/F#

Giv-ing a light for those who long have gone (have gone).
 O-ver the moun-tain 'til the break of dawn (the dawn),
 Yon-der in glo-ry when the crown is won (is won),

G D/A G/B C G

And guid-ing the wise men on their way un-to the place where Je-sus lay,
 And in-to the light of per-fect day it will give out a love-ly ray,
 For Je-sus is now that Star di-vine, bright-er and bright-er He will shine.

A7/E D7 G C/G G

Beau-ti-ful Star of Beth-le-hem— shine on (shine on).

G D G C G

O beau-ti-ful Star of Beth-le-hem,
 Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful Star, Star of Beth-le-hem,

Em D $\frac{A}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$

Shine up - on us un - til the glo - ry dawn;
glo - ry dawn;

G $\frac{D}{A}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ C G

O give us Thy light to light the way in - to the land of per - fect day.

$\frac{A7}{E}$ D7 G $\frac{C}{G}$ G

Beau - ti - ful Star of Beth - le - hem — shine on (shine on).

Lord of the Dance

Sydney Carter, 1963

19th Century Shaker Tune

Unison G Em Bm Em Am

1. I danced in the morn - ing when the world was be - gun, and I danced in the moon and the
 2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they would not dance and they
 3. I danced on the sab - bath when I cured the lame, the ho - ly peo - ple
 4. I danced on a Fri - day and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that - 'll

stars and the sun, and I came down from heav - en and I
 would not fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for
 said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they hung
 dev - il on your back; they bur - ied my bod - y and
 nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll

Refrain Bm Em Am D7 C G G Bm

danced on the earth, At Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.
 me high; and they left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -
 they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.
 live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

- ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be, And I'll

C D7 G C G

lead you all in the dance, said he.