

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



April 25, 2021

Guest Preacher: The Reverend LaVera Parato

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

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Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday of Easter

11:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

April 25, 2021

Prelude

“The Rejoicing!”

~ G. F. Handel

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Unison*) Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil; for You are with me.

Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil.

My cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

See Insert

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Gentle Shepherd, You guide us in right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others who seem to have it all. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness, and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.

Silence is observed

Assurance of God's Pardon *(Responsive)*

The Good Shepherd knows the sheep and the Good Shepherd has lain down his life for the sheep so that the sheep may live. We are part of the flock; we are part of Christ's body. In Christ we find forgiveness, wholeness, and restoration.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

"He Lives!"

~ A. H. Ackley

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 10:11-18

(CSB Christian Standard Bible)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, since he is not the shepherd and doesn't own the sheep, leaves them and runs away when he sees a wolf coming. The wolf then snatches and scatters them. ¹³ This happens because he is a hired hand and doesn't care about the sheep. ¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ But I have other sheep that are not from this sheep pen; I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the right to lay it down, and I have the right to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

I John 3:16-24

(CSB Christian Standard Bible)

¹⁶ This is how we have come to know love: He laid down his life for us. We should also lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has this world's goods and sees a fellow believer in need but withholds compassion from him—how does God's love reside in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth. ¹⁹ This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows all things. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. ²³ Now this is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps his commands remains in him, and he in him. And the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he has given us.

Sermon

"How Good a Lover Are You?"

~ Rev. LeVera Parato

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

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

See Insert

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

~ *Charles Wesley, Joseph Parry*

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

Sunday, May 2nd ~ 5 pm Session Meeting

For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Acts 4:5-12 and Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

Daily Readings for April 25 – May 1 use the following web link:

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

Prayer List Additions as of 4/25/2021

*Pollocksville Presbyterian Church Childcare, Josh Potter (Jerry Burkot),
Latravearcia Williams (Ms. T - PPCCC), Karl & Bonnie Zimmermann*

Please keep in your prayers those struggling to cope due to this pandemic.

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

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187



1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
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This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)



1 My shep-herd will sup-ply my need; Je-ho-vah is his name.
 2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh he makes me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.
 one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.
 O may your house be my a-bode, and all my work be praise.



He brings my wan-dering spir-it back when I for-sake his ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;
 There would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and leads me, for his mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows; your oil a-noints my head.
 no more a strang-er, or a guest, but like a child at home.



The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: U.S.A. folk melody; Lewis's *Beauties of Harmony*, 1828; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986

Music Harm. © 1990 Dale Grotenhuis

RESIGNATION

CMD

(alternate harmonization, 74)

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