



August 23, 2020

Pastor: The Reverend Thomas Wesley Moore, IV
Organist/Choir Director: Gera Howe

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The Session & Committee Chairs for 2020

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Pollocksville Presbyterian Church 12th Sunday after Pentecost Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

August 23, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive) (Source- Presbyterian Church in Canada) We give you thanks, O Lord, with all our hearts

for your faithful love endures forever.

We sing your praise, O Lord, with all our might

for your promises speak of your goodness to all the earth.

We place our trust in you, O Lord, with full confidence

for your salvation continues from generation to generation. And so we come to worship you, O Lord, and lift up our hearts in praise.

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

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

See Insert

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession (Source-Presbyterian Church in Canada)

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your purposes. You set a path for us to follow, but we conform to the ways of this world. You offer us your transforming love, but we cling to familiar patterns and habits. You give each of us gifts to use for the work of your kingdom, but we wait for others to do what needs doing.

Forgive us for taking the easy way out and failing to serve you with eager hearts.

Silence is observed

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive) (Source-Romans 8:34)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us. Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace. Amen!

Anthem "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place" ~ Wolfe ~ ~ Mary Ann LeRay, Rebecca Long and Amber Swanger

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Exodus 1:1-2:10 (Common English Bible)

1:1 These are the names of the Israelites who came to Egypt with Jacob along with their households: 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, 4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. 5 The total number in Jacob's family was seventy. Joseph was already in Egypt. 6 Eventually, Joseph, his brothers, and everyone in his generation died. 7 But the Israelites were fertile and became populous. They multiplied and grew dramatically, filling the whole land. 8 Now a new king came to power in Egypt who didn't know Joseph. 9 He said to his people, "The Israelite people are now larger in number and stronger than we are. 10 Come on, let's be smart and deal with them. Otherwise, they will only grow in number. And if war breaks out, they will join our enemies, fight against us, and then escape from the land." 11 As a result, the Egyptians put foremen of forced work gangs over the Israelites to harass them with hard work. They had to build storage cities named Pithom and Rameses for Pharaoh. 12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they grew and spread, so much so that the Egyptians started to look at the Israelites with disgust and dread. 13 So the Egyptians enslaved the Israelites. 14 They made their lives miserable with hard labor, making mortar and bricks, doing field work, and by forcing them to do all kinds of other cruel work. 15 The king of Egypt spoke to two Hebrew midwives named Shiphrah and Puah: 16 "When you are helping the Hebrew women give birth and you see the baby being born, if it's a boy, kill him. But if it's a girl, you can let her live." 17 Now the two midwives respected God so they didn't obey the Egyptian king's order. Instead, they let the baby boys live. 18 So the king of Egypt called the two midwives and said to them, "Why are you doing this? Why are you letting the baby boys live?" 19 The two midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because Hebrew women aren't like Egyptian women. They're much stronger and give birth before any midwives can get to them." 20 So God treated the midwives well, and the people kept on multiplying and became very strong. 21 And because the midwives respected God, God gave them households of their own. 22 Then Pharaoh gave an order to all his people: "Throw every baby boy born to the Hebrews into the Nile River, but you can let all the girls live."

2:1 Now a man from Levi's household married a Levite woman. 2 The woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that the baby was healthy and beautiful, so she hid him for three months. 3 When she couldn't hide him any longer, she took a reed basket and sealed it up with black tar. She put the child in the basket and set the basket among the reeds at the riverbank. 4 The baby's older sister stood watch nearby to see what would happen to him. 5 Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the river, while her women servants walked along beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds, and she sent one of her servants to bring it to her. 6 When she opened it, she saw the child. The boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. She said, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children." 7 Then the baby's sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Would you like me to go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" 8 Pharaoh's daughter agreed, "Yes, do that." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I'll pay you for your work." So the woman took the child and nursed it. 10 After the child had grown up, she brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter, who adopted him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I pulled him out of the water."

Sermon

"Midwives of Compassion" ~ Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV

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.

*Affirmation of Faith

*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

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

See Insert

*Charge and Benediction

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

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For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 1:8-2:10; *Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20*Daily Readings for August 23 – 29 use the following web link:

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

Prayer List Additions as of 8/23/2020

Hazel Ann Atkinson, Rev. Dana Caldwell (Friend of Rev. Lauren Voyles), Cliff Griswold,
The Family of Edna Smith – Please keep Buddy, Barbara & the Smith Family in your prayers
Please keep in your prayers those struggling to cope due to this pandemic
Continue to pray for the schools as the students start back for a new and much different year.
Remember the administration, teachers, students, and parents during this difficult time.

Continue praying for all our brothers and sisters all over the world!

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress.

Congregational Meetings after Sunday Worship Service

September 13th: Meeting to elect the Officer Nominating Committee September 27th: Meeting to receive the report from the Officer Nominating Committee & elect Elders

Today is Building Fund Sunday.

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

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past



- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.