



Pittsburg Presbyterian Church

March 20, 2022 ~ 10:00 am

Third Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

Prelude

Abide With Me

William Monk/Joseph Barnby/Arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Norma Hiatt, violin

Virginia Darling, piano

Lay Leader: Preset your folder at your seat.

Bring in the Light of Christ during the Prelude.

Welcome

Blake Benson

Good Morning, we are glad you are here with us today at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church. We are truly blessed to gather together for worship on this third Sunday in Lent.

Mission Statement

Blake Benson

Our Mission at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church is to love God, know Christ, care for one another, and to joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please remain seated and join together in singing our Missional Song.

Missional Song

Susan Laushman

Love God, care for one another;

Know Christ, care for one another;

Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please stand for the Opening Sentences.

***Opening Sentences**

Blake Benson

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *Thirsty, our hearts crave living water.*

People: Hungry, our souls ache to be satisfied.

Leader: *Weary, our minds are tired by thoughts*

People: that do not come from God.

Leader: *Thirsty, hungry, and weary,*

People: let us worship the God of love.

Leader: *Our opening hymn today is "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" ...Come, let us worship God.*

***Opening Hymn**

Glory To God #187

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

(V 1, 2, 3)

Verse 1

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us;
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us: we are yours.

Verse 2

We are yours: in love befriend us;
be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock: from sin defend us;
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray.

Verse 3

You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.

Please be seated

Announcements

Blake Benson

- *Good morning and thank you for worshiping with us today!*
- *As part of COVID precautions, please be respectful of those that wish to social distance.*
- *Please Check-in on Social Media to share the peace of Christ with your friends and loved ones online!*

- (Explain & show the Yellow Cards.) *Please fill out the front and write any information/prayer concerns, etc. on the back and place it in one of the white boxes at the back of the Sanctuary, as you leave.*
- *"Kids Following Jesus" (KFJ) is available online. Please access the KFJ video through "The Sower", Facebook page, or YouTube channel.*
- (Show the Announcement flyer): *Please refer to the Announcement flyer for important information and take it home with you.*
- Fellowship: *Following worship, please join together for Coffee & Cookies Fellowship in the Parlor, hosted by Elma Hurt.*
 - * **Please mention any last minute announcements.**

Call to Confession

Blake Benson

*The Scriptures call us to turn from sinful ways and return to God,
who offers mercy and pardon.
Trusting in that mercy, let us call upon God who is near.*

Prayer of Confession

Blake Benson

Leader: Holy God,

All: we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you.

You set before us a rich feast of blessing,
but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy.
You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world,
but we indulge our own desires.

Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts.

Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives.

Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life.

Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are,
in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.

We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ.

Leader: Hear now our individual silent confessions:

Wait a minute and say "Amen", then proceed into the Assurance of Pardon.

Assurance of Pardon

Blake Benson

Leader: God's love is sure and steadfast, . . .

always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

Through the waters of baptism,

we have died with Christ and are raised with him.

. . . With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

[Virginia offers intro to *Gloria*]

Please stand

***Gloria Patri**
Glory to God #581
Meineke

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.

Please be seated

WORD

Special Music
"Batter my heart..."
From *Doctor Atomic*
John Adams/Arr. Brock Willard
Brock Willard, tenor
Virginia Darling, piano

Old Testament Reading
Benson

Isaiah 55:1-9 (NIV)

Blake

Reader: A reading from Isaiah chapter 55, verse 1 through 9.
Listen to the word of God:

*"Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!*

*Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.*

² *Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.*

³ *Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.*

*I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.*

⁴ *See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
a ruler and commander of the peoples.*

⁵ *Surely you will summon nations you know not,*

*and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.”*

⁶ *Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.*

⁷ *Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.*

⁸ *“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.*

⁹ *“As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

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**New Testament Reading      *Luke 13:1-9 (NIV)***

**Trevor Elliott**

*Reader: A reading from Luke, chapter 13, verses 1 through 9.*

*Listen to the word of God:*

*Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”*

<sup>6</sup> *Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’*

<sup>8</sup> *“‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”*

*This is the word of God.*

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

**Message**

**“Give it Time to Grow”**

**Trevor Elliott**

**Prayer Hymn**  
**Glory to God #748**  
**Go With Us Lord**

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Go with us, Lord, and guide the way  
through this and every coming day,  
that in your Spirit strong and true  
our lives may be our gift to you.

**Prayer of Intercession**

**Blake Benson**

**You may say your own words OR the following:**

**Leader:** *God of generous provision,  
we are grateful for the many ways you care for us  
and provide for the needs of your people.  
In word, water, bread, and wine, you nourish and sustain us.  
When we listen to you, we encounter delight,  
and when we come to you, we live most fully.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

**Leader:** *Sometimes, though, we find ourselves in a dry and weary land . . .  
Where we have misused and depleted creation,  
drought and famine leave people and animals facing hunger and starvation.  
Where we have polluted streams, rivers, and oceans,  
fish and other water creatures suffer and die.  
People without access to clean water become sick.  
O God, help us to care for your creation in ways that make it possible  
for all to have enough food and water—life, verdant and abundant.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

**Leader:** *Sometimes we find ourselves in a dry and weary land . . .  
In places torn apart by war, where the earth itself has been ravaged;  
where hospitals and homes and corner stores have been reduced to rubble;  
where human lives have been destroyed and deformed;  
where peace lies in the ruins and hope is buried.  
O God, raise peace among us again.  
Build hope up from the ground.  
Restore in us and in the world's leaders  
the will and determination to make an end of war and a new  
beginning for justice.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

**Leader:** *Sometimes we find ourselves in a dry and weary land . . .  
When we are lost, unable to find our way to a place that is home for us;  
when we are sad and weighed down with regret or grief;*

*when we are tired or sick in body, mind, or spirit.  
O God, provide water in the desert and manna in the wilderness—  
enough to sustain us for one more day,  
even enough to revive us for the long haul.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

*Leader: Sometimes we find ourselves in the rich feast of your presence . . .  
We celebrate a new beginning in our lives:  
a new job, a new relationship, a new life,  
a new day of sobriety, a second chance.  
O God, we give thanks to you for this new blessing in our lives.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

*Leader: Sometimes we find ourselves in the rich feast of your presence . . .  
We give thanks for the gift of healing after injury or illness;  
for laughter that bubbles up to replace our tears;  
for hope that spills its soothing light over the darkness of our despair.  
O God, we thank you for the gift of wholeness and resurrection  
promised to us in Jesus Christ.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

*Leader: Sometimes we find ourselves in the rich feast of your presence . . .  
We enjoy the relief of forgiveness given and received;  
we enjoy a breach in walls of division;  
our own hearts are enlarged and our own vision is broadened by  
new understanding;  
we welcome a prodigal home or are ourselves welcomed home again.  
O God, we thank you that you are reconciling all things in heaven  
and on earth.  
. . . Lord in your mercy*

**People:** hear our prayers.

*Leader: Be patient with us, we pray, in the varied landscapes of our lives.  
Make us patient with one another and even with ourselves.  
Do your good work within us, among us, and beyond us, too,  
until our lives and all of creation come fully into your realm.  
You, who so generously provide, deserve our praise, our grateful praise.  
In Jesus' name we pray.*

*Please join together as Jesus taught us to pray . . .*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**People:** 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.

**Invitation to Offering**

**Blake Benson**

*As we prepare for our offering today, there are various ways that you may give. You may place your offering and Yellow Card in the white box, at the back, as you leave or contact the office for other options.*

*Disciples of Jesus, children of God,  
we often spend our money on that which is not true bread,  
and labor toward things that will never satisfy.  
In our offering, we give to things that are of God:  
bread for the hungry, good news for those who are oppressed,  
the ministries of the church that welcome strangers and sons and  
daughters alike.  
We bring before God a portion of all that God has so freely given to us.*

**Prayer for Offering**

**Blake Benson**

*Let us pray:  
God of wilderness and Promised Land,  
in days of want and in days of plenty you have been with us.  
By these gifts we now share,  
may others know of your providence and care.  
Send us—not only our offerings, but our very selves—  
to console and comfort, to lift up and reach out,  
to listen and sit beside your children everywhere  
at the one Table you have set; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Please stand

**\*The 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.

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

***A Humble Creed***  
(For the season of Lent)  
lines 1-12

**Blake Benson**

<https://modernliturgist.org/project/seasonal-creeds/>

**Leader:** *Believer, what do you believe?*

**People:** I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth,  
Who gave man and woman free will  
And entrusted this precious world to us.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord,



Who was born in a manger by Mary,  
A woman of humble beginnings.  
Refusing to seek power,  
And turning away the sword,  
He died for us, the Lamb of God.  
He descended into the darkest of all places,  
But rose again on the third day,  
Bringing life and hope to all.

**\*Closing Hymn**

**Blake Benson**

*Our closing hymn today is "Breathe on Me, Breath of God".*

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Glory To God #286*

***Breathe on Me, Breath of God***

**Verse 1**

Breathe on me, Breath of God;  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.

**Verse 2**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will,  
to do and to endure.

**Verse 3**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.

**Verse 4**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.

**\*Blessing & Charge**

**Trevor Elliott**

**You may prepare your own OR the following:**

*May the mercy of God ground us, the love of Christ take root in us,  
and the Holy Spirit grow in us,  
that we may be ready for the coming of the kingdom.*

Lay Leader: After the blessing, begin to take the light of Christ into the world:

1. Light the candle lighter with one of the candles on the communion table.

2. Extinguish both candles on the communion table.
3. Stand with the light, facing the congregation.
4. Walk out with the light through the East aisle, in front of Pastor, to the back of the sanctuary.
5. Extinguish the light and stow the candle lighter.

**Postlude**

***Beach Spring***

**(Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy)**

**The Sacred Harp/Arr. Anne Krentz Organ**

**Norma Hiatt, violin**

**Virginia Darling, piano**