



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Third Sunday After Epiphany

“A Call To Be Fish For People”

Isaiah 9:1-4

Matthew 4:12-23

Pastor Richard Aylor

January 22, 2023

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God's Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Prelude

Played by Nancy Church

Opening Chant

Pastor Richard Aylor

“Glory to God”

Purple Hymnal 583

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the in highest!
Glory to God, Glory to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Welcome

****Call to Worship**

Pastor Richard Aylor

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear?

People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: As we behold the beauty of God’s temple, we see God’s face.

People: God is our shelter and our shade.

Leader: We will sing to the God of our salvation!

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

****Opening Hymn**

“We Praise You O God”

Purple Hymnal 612

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Invitation to Confession

Jill Green

Leader: Christ calls us to follow, knowing that we are human.

People: Jesus knows we are not perfect.

Leader: He knows we will not always get it right.

People: All he asks is that we try, learn, and try again.

Leader: Let us go to God, telling how we have tried and failed, that God may teach us what we must learn.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

Prayer of Confession

Jill Green

Leader: Christ, our Messiah, you call us to fish for people,

People: but we are hesitant to leave our boats.

Leader: We are afraid to let go of the things we hoard, believing they make us secure.

People: We are afraid to put our trust in you, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail.

Leader: Forgive us.

All: Transform our fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with you, that we may be part of your work in the world.

Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ

Jill Green

Leader: Just as Jesus called the disciples, so Christ calls us.

People: Forgiven of our sin and freed to serve, let us answer Christ's call.

Leader: Christ calls us, forgives us, heals us, and teaches us.

All: Thanks be to God!

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with those gathered here and those watching from home.

People: And, also with you.

Leader: Share the Peace of Christ with one another.

****Response to Forgiveness**

“There is a Redeemer”

Purple Hymnal 443 (v. 1)

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

Prayer for Illumination

Jill Green

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son, so that we may live according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

Jill Green

9 But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

I come to the garden alone. While the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

(Refrain)

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
and He tells me I am His own;
and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing.
and the melody that He gave to me, within my heart is ringing.

(Refrain)

I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me be falling.
but He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe His voice to me is calling.

(Refrain)

New Testament Reading

Matthew 4:12-23

Pastor Richard Aylor

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Sermon

“A Call To Be Fish For People”

****Response to Sermon**

“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”

Purple Hymnal 738

O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move by some, clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience, still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future’s broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Richard Aylor

****Doxology**

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

Purple Hymnal 721 (v. 2)

You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
you will find there my nets and labor.

(Refrain)

**O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat’s left on the shoreline behind me.
by your side I will seek other seas.**

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

All: 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.

****Closing Hymn**

“Jesus Calls Us”

Purple Hymnal 720

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, “Christian, follow me.”

Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, “Christian, love me more.”

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, “Christian, love me more than these.”

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

****Charge and Blessing**

Pastor Richard Aylor

Leader: And the people of God say

People: **Alleluia. Amen.**

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

Please join us for Fellowship Time immediately following the Worship Service. To all of our visitors, we welcome you and look forward to getting to know you during this time.

For Pastoral Care:

Please contact Pastor Richard at 303-828-8263

A General Note regarding Financial Solicitations:

Please remember that a church leader will never directly solicit you for funds or the transfer of funds. We will only ask for your support of the church through the traditional process of filling out pledge cards and fulfilling that pledge accordingly.

Office Hours:

The Church Office is open Tuesday – Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Peg and Toby normally go to lunch between 12 and 12:30 and are back by 1:30). Friday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please remember the deadline for Church Communication Publications is Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

A special thank you to Tate and Chase Allbritton for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - “The Presbyterian Hymnal”

Red - “Songs for Praise and Worship”

Purple - “Glory to God”

Yellow - “Hymns for the Family of God”

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Liturgy and reflections are provided by Lectionary Aids for 2021-2022, Year C, Volume 55.1, PCUSA and Book of Common Worship, Westminster John Knox Press.