

The Worship of God during Lent

March 22, 2020

Invocation *God of all people and places, you have gathered to yourself this day worshippers of every tongue. Jesus Christ, anointed of God, you are our song and sight. Bear us up in worship, Holy Spirit. Great Three-in-One, we offer ourselves to You. Amen.*

Announcements What work in the world has God given PRBC this week? How can I contribute?

Gathering Hymn, 6 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Silent Prayers of Confession—**Lord, have mercy.**

Praying with the Psalmist (Psalm 23 KJV)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Great Shepherd, help me to see the verdant and peaceful places nearby on this day and every day.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Great Shepherd, restore my soul to the path of your Son, the Good Shepherd.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Great Shepherd, strengthen me for the shadowy paths ahead.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Great Shepherd, seat me at the table of your abundance that my body may overflow with your contentment.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Great Shepherd, carry me on the wings of your gifts toward the dwelling prepared ahead of time for those who seek you.

Passing the Peace *Take a moment and in your mind's eye to make your way around the sanctuary passing the peace of Christ to your neighbors.

Offertory Hymn, 61 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
Listen online @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcNLvufzbz0>

Offering of Gifts *Consider one concrete act in the coming week by which you can return to the Lord a portion of that which you've been given.

Prayers for the Life of the World—**Lord, hear my prayer.**

Song of Preparation

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am.

Be still and know.

Be still.

Be.

Gospel Reading—John 9:1-41

Lenten Sermon Series on “Belonging” “Belonging at the Pool”

One born blind has been given sight by an elusive prophet. Townspeople know his face but are somehow blind to his identity. Pharisees are hell-bent on eclipsing all the light they cannot see. His parents are too afraid of the powerful center to admit God's work at the margins of their own life. This story is full of people who struggle with the muddy reality of restoration. So it is with us. Jesus comes to wash our eyes out with a mud that can restore our ability to glimpse the true identity of our neighbors, to see through the disguises of self-serving leaders, and to behold unflinchingly in all we meet the face of a child of God. Being found by Jesus opens our eyes to the world.

Silence

Parting Hymn, 330 “Amazing Grace”

Benediction

WELCOME

A warm Christian welcome is extended to all who have gathered to worship today. All ages are welcome in worship. For busy babies and toddlers who need a break, there is a “playground” with soft toys and coloring sheets in the back of the sanctuary. Young children will be invited to go back with adults for Children’s Worship during the sermon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ⇒ Services this Sunday will be held across the miles rather than in-person. We encourage you to worship together as distant participants during the 11:00 am worship hour.
- ⇒ An updated church directory is enclosed. Please take an opportunity to pray for, call, write, or otherwise reach out to one another.
- ⇒ We will be in touch soon with those who volunteer with the Henry County Help Center.
- ⇒ For those wishing to correspond with the church during this period or send an offering check, the church’s mailing address is PO Box 45, Port Royal, KY 40058.

Cover: “Blind Man Washes in the Pool of Siloam,” watercolor by James Tissot (d. 1902).

Lenten Readings

- March 1 – Matthew 4:1-11 – Belonging in the Wilderness
- March 8 – John 3:1-17 – Belonging in the Dark
- March 15 – John 4:5-42 – Belonging at the Well
- March 22 – John 9:1-41 – Belonging at the Pool
- March 29 – John 11:1-45 – Belonging in Death

Co-pastors: Reverends Amber and John Inscore Essick
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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Carl Rucker 532-6092

Musicians: Tanya Berry, Velma Jo Brown, and Carden Willis

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 a.m.



PORT ROYAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Port Royal, KY