



Sunday, March 19, 2023
 Fourth Sunday In Lent
 Pastor Carl McCormack

"What Are We
 Too Blind To
 See?"

1 Samuel 16:1-13
 John 9:1-41

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

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Welcome & Announcements Stephanie Gilchrist

Welcome from the Pastor

Prelude Jo Murry

*Call to Worship Stephanie Gilchrist

We are gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good, and that it comes from God.

We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life's long journey.

We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust in God's love in our future.

The same God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond life.

Let us praise God with our whole hearts, and entrust our lives to God's hands.

*Opening Prayer Stephanie Gilchrist

*Opening Song of Praise #772 "Live into Hope"

Call to Confession Stephanie Gilchrist

Prayer of Confession

You call us to be pilgrims, to follow you in a journey of faith. But we would find it easier to follow when not so much is at stake. You promise that you will be with us and that our needs will be met. Yet, we cling to our possessions trusting in them for our security. You lead us into unfamiliar places, asking that we only trust in you completely. O God, your ways are challenging, and your demands seem so great, that we become anxious and uncertain. Have mercy upon us and forgive our hesitant steps toward your sure promise. Hear us now as we silently confess the sins of our daily lives. . .

Assurance of Pardon Pastor Carl

Friends, believe and proclaim the glorious news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gloria Patri #581

Passing the *Peace of Christ*

Prayer for Illumination Stephanie Gilchrist (In Unison)

Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, so that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may see what is good and right and true. And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you, so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Stephanie Gilchrist

16 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." **2** Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" **3** Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." **4** Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" **5** He said, "Peaceably; I

have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. **6** When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." **7** But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." **8** Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." **9** Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." **10** Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." **11** Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." **12** He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." **13** Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

Pastor Carl

9 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. **2** His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" **3** Jesus answered, "**Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him.** **4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work.** **5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."** **6** When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, **7** saying to him, "**Go, wash in the pool of Siloam**" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. **8** The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" **9** Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." **10** But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" **11** He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, '**Go to Siloam and wash.**' Then I went and washed and received my sight." **12** They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I

do not know." **13** They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. **14** Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. **15** Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." **16** Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. **17** So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." **18** The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight **19** and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" **20** His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; **21** but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." **22** His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. **23** Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." **24** So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." **25** He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." **26** They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" **27** He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" **28** Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. **29** We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." **30** The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. **31** We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. **32** Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. **33** If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." **34** They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. **35** Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "**Do you believe in the Son of Man?**" **36** He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." **37** Jesus said to him, "**You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.**" **38** He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. **39** Jesus said, "**I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.**" **40** Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him,

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, 03/19— Fourth Sunday In Lent

9:45am—Fellowship Sunday School—Parlor
11am—Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl
Children Wee Worship
12pm—Church Family Dinner
1:30pm Session Meeting

Monday, 03/20

10:30am—Monday Morning Prayer Group—Conference Room
11:30am—Worship Committee Meeting
6:30pm—Arkansas Scottish Dance Society—Steen Hall

Tues. 03/21

10am Morning Bible Study Group
1pm Afternoon Bible Study Group
6:30pm Woodworkers

Wednesday. 03/22

4:30pm—Bell Choir

Friday, 03/24

AR Country Dance Society

Sunday, 03/26— Fifth Sunday In Lent

9:45am—Fellowship Sunday School—Parlor
11am—Worship online & in-sanctuary Pastor Carl
Children Wee Worship
Noon—4pm—Mother's Day Out
programs, games, light lunch and snacks

PRAYER NOTES—

Recent: Willette Lollar; Wendel Phillips; LaVonne Smith

Continued prayers for: Patt Bond; Claire Caldwell; Ed Caldwell; Pat Clark; Donna Ellis; Jesse Macom-Teague;

Continued prayers for friends of the church: Charles & Darnell Clark; Constance Hughes; Brandi Johnston; Harriet Kleinhofs; Amber Mize (Liz & Phil Terrell); Stephanie Phillips (Gail & Wendell Phillips' Daughter-In-Law); Elizabeth Pollard; Norma Smith

Prayers for those in home confinement: Ann Cother; Bunn Falls (Johnson County Health & Rehab, Clarksville); LeMoyne Jones (AR State Veterans Home); Willette Lollar (Presbyterian Village); Steve Pollard (VA Hospital); David Rennie; Ann Woods

Continued prayers for those in grief: For the anniversaries of all those who have passed.

*Please contact the church office if you need someone placed on or off of the prayer notes. Thank you.