

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

August 19, 2018

We gather today as “the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant ... ” Hebrews 12:23-24a

A Time for Preparation

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

O MY SAVIOUR,

Help me. I am so slow to learn, so prone to forget, so weak to climb; I am in the foothills when I should be on the heights; I am pained by my graceless heart, my prayerless days, my poverty of love, my sloth in the heavenly race, my sullied conscience, my wasted hours, my unspent opportunities. I am blind while light shines around me: take the scales from my eyes, grind to dust the evil heart of unbelief. Make it my chiefest joy to study thee, meditate on thee, gaze on thee, sit like Mary at thy feet, lean like John on thy breast, appeal like Peter to thy love, count like Paul all things dung. Give me increase and progress in grace so that there may be more decision in my character, more vigour in my purposes, more elevation in my life, more fervor in my devotion, more constancy in my zeal. As I have a position in the world, keep me from making the world my position; may I never seek in the creature what can be found only in the Creator; let not faith cease from seeking thee until it vanishes into sight. Ride forth in me, thou King of kings and Lord of lords, that I may live victoriously, and in victory attain my end.

(The Valley of Vision Prayer Book)

Ring of Bell Judah Gosnell

Announcements..... Deacon

A Time for Praise:

Prelude

Call to Worship

Scripture and Prayer Travis Gosnell

• *Hymn of Praise* *O Worship the King* Hymn #104

A Time for Offering:

• *Offertory Hymn* *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder* Hymn #774

• Doxology..... Hymn #815

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Tithes and Offerings Ushers

A Time for Hearing God’s Word:

Choral Message *Cross of Love Medley* Arr. Adams

Message Pastor Lucas Mann

Pastoral Prayer

A Time for Surrender:

• *Hymn of Response* *The Longer I Serve Him* Hymn #520

• Benediction

Postlude

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Affirmation of Faith – Westminster Larger Catechism

99. What is required in the third Commandment?

That we must not by cursing, (Lev 24:10-16) or by false swearing, (Lev 19:12) nor yet by unnecessary oaths, (Matt 5:37) profane or abuse the name of God; nor even by our silence and connivance be partakers of these horrible sins in others; and in sum, that we use the Holy Name of God in no other way than with fear and reverence, (Isa 45:23) so that He may be rightly confessed (Matt 10:32) and worshipped (1 Tim 2:8) by us, and be glorified in all our words and works. (Rom 2:24)

100. Is the profaning of God’s name, by swearing and cursing, so grievous a sin, that His wrath is kindled against those also who do not help as much as they can to hinder and forbid the same?

Yes truly, (Lev 5:1) for no sin is greater and more provoking to God than the profaning of His name; wherefore He even commanded it to be punished with death. (Lev 24:15,16)

Opportunities of the Week

Sunday, August 19

11:00 a.m. Deacon Nominations
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Evening Service
7:00 p.m. Youth & Children’s Ministry
8:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social
8:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Monday, August 20

5:00 p.m. Prayer Group 8

Wednesday, August 22

7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry

Saturday, August 25

8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast

Nursery this week: Theresa Engel
Megan Balentine

Church Watch this month: Mike Posey, Jr.

What Did Deacons Do?

By John Piper

The word "deacon" comes from the Greek word *diakonos*. It usually has the general meaning, "servant," in a broad range of contexts. For example:

The servants at the wedding who carried the water containers (John 2:5, 9): His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Christ is called servant to the circumcision (Romans 15:8): Christ became a servant to the circumcision to show God's truthfulness.

Paul calls himself a servant of the new covenant (2 Corinthians 3:6): God has qualified us to be ministers of a new covenant.

And of the gospel (Colossians 1:23): Do not shift from the hope of the gospel . . . of which I, Paul, became a minister.

And of the church (Colossians 1:24): I complete what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister. (See also 1 Corinthians 3:5.)

Tychicus is called a faithful servant in the Lord (Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 4:7): Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister of the Lord will tell you everything.

Timothy is called God's servant (1 Thessalonians 3:2): We sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the gospel of Christ.

The disciples are told that if they would be great they must be servants (Matthew 20:26): Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.

The Greek noun that describes what a *diakonos* does is *diakonia* and has meanings just as broad:

Martha is concerned with too much serving (Luke 10:40).

The apostleship is called a ministry (Acts 1:17, 25).

The widows of the Hellenists were being overlooked in the daily "distribution" (Acts 6:1).

But three verses later Luke refers to the task of the apostles as the "ministry" of the word.

The raising of money for the poor saints was called a "ministry" (Acts 11:29; 12:25; Romans 15:31; 2 Corinthians 8:4; 9:1, 12, 13.).

Paul calls his own assignment from the Lord a "ministry" (Acts 20:24; 21:19; Romans 11:13; 2 Corinthians 4:1).

It is listed in the gifts between prophecy and teaching in Romans 12:7.

And "various ministries" is listed between "various gifts" and "various workings" in 1 Corinthians 12:5.

The old covenant is called a ministry of death and condemnation as compared to the new covenant which called a ministry of the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:7–9).

Paul calls his work a ministry of reconciliation in 2 Corinthians 5:18.

Pastor/teachers are to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:12).

The verb form of this Greek word is *diakoneo*. It has the general meaning of "serve."

Jesus came to serve not be served (Matthew 20:28).

Therefore, he taught that a good leader is one who serves (Luke 22:26).

Jesus said that if anyone serves him, the Father would honor him (John 12:26).

In Acts 19:22 Timothy and Erastus are described as those who serve Paul.

But there is a strong tendency of this verb (*diakoneo*) to refer to the kind of serving that involves very practical acts of supplying material needs, and literally table-service.

Angels came to serve Jesus in the wilderness, i.e., tend to his needs (Matthew 4:11).

Peter's mother in law rose from her sick bed to serve her guests (Matthew 8:15).

The women who followed Jesus served out of their own pockets (Matthew 27:55; Luke 8:3).

Martha served from the kitchen (Luke 10:40; John 12:2).

Paul's carrying money to Jerusalem is doing service (Romans 15:25; 2 Corinthians 8:19).

The serving of Onesiphorus is described as often refreshing Paul in connection with his not being ashamed of Paul's chains, which I take to mean that he visited him in prison (2 Timothy 1:16–18).

Paul wants to keep Onesimus, the converted slave, with him so he can serve him in prison (Philemon 13).

The saints of Hebrews are described as serving the saints in love (6:10), and later they are described as visiting saints in prison (10:32–34).

In 1 Peter 4:10–11 speaking and serving are treated separately as though there may have been a word ministry (perhaps the teaching of elders) and a non-word-serving ministry (perhaps the service of deacons).

Matthew 25:44 may be the best summary in the NT of the kinds of activities done by one who "serves." "Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?'"

Conclusion: The basic meaning of the *diakon*- word group is practical, active helping with respect to the basic necessities of life.

From Matthew 25:44 we could include dire needs arising from hunger, thirst, alienation, nakedness, sickness, imprisonment. That would imply that the basic notion of "serving" in the sense of being a deacon is to help meet needs for

- food,
- water,
- acclimatization,
- clothing,
- health,
- and whatever needs arise from emergencies (like imprisonment).

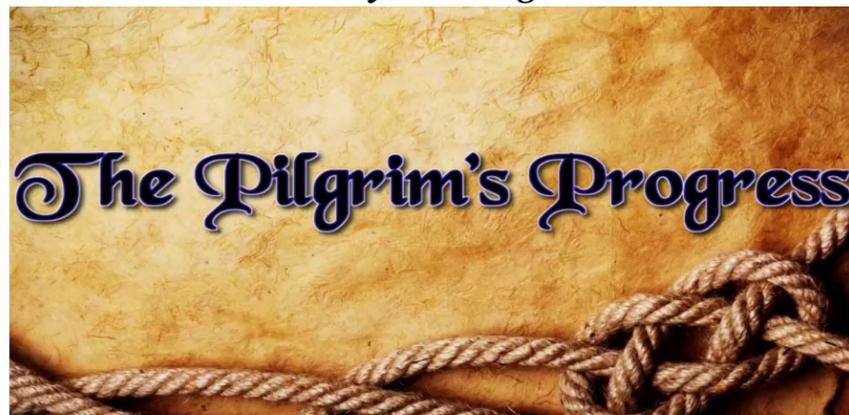
Probably the term is applied to ministries of the Word and apostleship and Christ's own ministry to show that they are to be done humbly and in compassion and for the benefit of others. But when Jesus says in Luke 22:26 that the leader should become as one who serves (as he did!), he does not mean that there are no differences between a leader and a non-leader. He means that the lowliness that is natural for a table-waiter should also characterize those in positions of leadership.

So even though the highest offices (e.g., apostle) are called "ministry," this does not mean that there is no office in the church with a special focus on practical and more material needs.

It appears that the deacons in 1 Timothy 3 and Philippians 1 were that kind of officers.

We thank you for worshipping with us today. We trust that your heart has been encouraged, your spirit filled, and that you will leave here equipped for the work to which God has called you. If you would like to find out more information about Poplar Springs Baptist Church, please visit our website: www.poplarspringsws.org or call (864) 861-2196.

Wednesday Evening Service



Church Contact Information:

Church/Fellowship Building: (864) 861-2190

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Email: balentine@poplarspringsws.org

Pastor:

Youth Pastor: Travis Gosnell

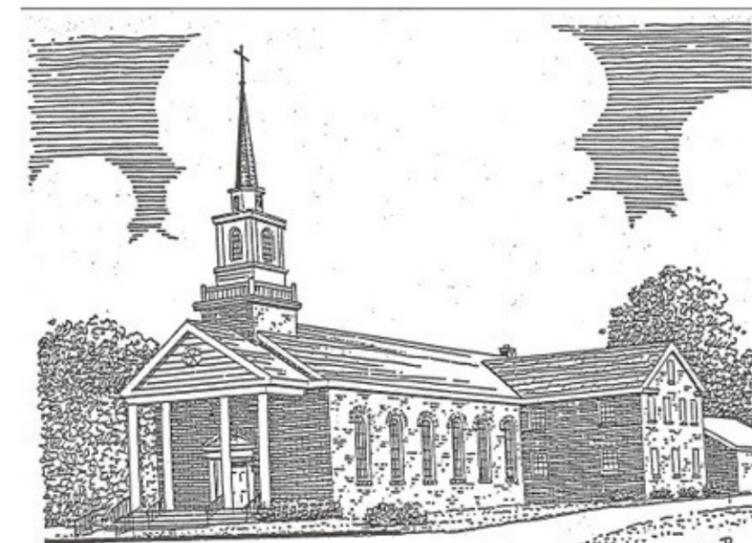
Music Leader: Deck Balentine

Pianist: Jean Powell

Website: www.poplarspringsws.org

Poplar Springs

Baptist Church



Poplar Springs Baptist Church

Ware Shoals, S.C.

“But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.”

Luke 22:26-27

THE LORD'S DAY, AUGUST 19, 2018

6000 Poplar Springs Road

Ware Shoals, SC 29692

(864) 861-2196

www.poplarspringsws.org

Sunday School: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am