

**The Parable of the Persistent Widow  
The Pharisee and the Tax Collector  
Luke 18:1–14**

1. The opening parable, about a persistent widow, is intended by Jesus to encourage His followers to make prayer a central part of their lives and thus not give into despair.
2. In the parable, there was a judge who was essentially an atheist and uncaring. There was a widow, obviously poor and powerless, who continually approached the judge and asked for his help. The judge refused at first, but after a while, due to the constancy of the widow, he granted her request.
3. The intent of the parable is that Jesus' followers (His elect) are to continue in prayer, and God will give them justice, answering their prayers.
4. Secondly, a Pharisee and a tax collector are at the Temple praying. The Pharisee does not really pray but boasts of how superior he is in comparison to a despised tax collector, who is obviously Jewish.
5. The self-righteous religious Pharisee boasts of how wonderful he is while noting the despised tax collector. With five "I's" the Pharisee lets God know how different he is from the tax collector.
6. This man, standing a good distance from the Pharisee, beats on his chest in his misery and asks for forgiveness, identifying himself as a "sinner."
7. That "bad" man went home "justified," that is, forgiven of his sin. Not so the Pharisee.

Notes:

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Leader:** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Congregation:** And also with you.

**The Gloria Patri**

**Hymn:** # 21 O For a Thousand Tongues

**Call to Worship:**

*Sh'ma Yisrael Adonai Elohenu Adonai echad*

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."

Leader: We have been born again by the Spirit of God.

People: Whether young or old in Christ, we are eager to grow up into His fullness.

Leader: Maturing and growing up into the fullness of Christ,

People: We are called to give Him praise and glory.

Leader: Putting away childish things, we are here to worship the Lord our God.

**Morning Prayer — Prayers of the Church — Silent Prayer**

**Collect of the Day:**

O GOD, FROM WHOM ALL GOOD THINGS COME: LEAD US BY THE INSPIRATION OF YOUR SPIRIT TO THINK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE RIGHT, AND BY YOUR GOODNESS HELP US TO DO THEM; THROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER. Amen.

**We Confess our Faith — The Apostle's Creed**

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 17:1–9, 51:1–4; Daniel 9:16–19; Mt. 5:43–48;  
Luke 3:10–14; 1 Thes. 5:12–22; James 5:7–8

**Memory Verses:** Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

**Reflection:** Pray that God will make this easier to do.

**Choruses:** “I’m Not My Own” and “Seek Ye First” and “Woke Up This Morning”

**Offertory Theme:** Easier for some than others.

### Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

#### Ways to give when not present at service:

- 1) Go to the “Giving” page of our website: [milleravenuechurch.org/giving](http://milleravenuechurch.org/giving) and click on the “Donate” button, then follow the link.
- 2) Download the GivePlus+ app on your smartphone, then input Miller Avenue Church and follow the instructions.
- 3) Text a dollar amount (e.g., \$25) to 844-918-0231, then follow the link.
- 4) Mail a check to Miller Avenue Church, 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

### The Doxology

**Announcements:** Birthdays?

**Bible Exposition:** Romans 5:18–21 (Richard)

**Hymn:** # 444 I Love to Tell the Story

**Sermon:** The Parable of the Persistent Widow & Pharisee and the Tax Collector  
Luke 18:1–14, (Kent)

Notes:

### Receiving Jesus in the Bread and the Cup:

**The Confessional:** “For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

**The Jesus Prayer:** (sung twice): “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

**The Promise of acceptance and forgiveness:** “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

#### Individual, silent prayers of confession-The Lord’s Prayer

**The Confirmation:** “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1

**The Assurance:** “Those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.” Romans 8:30

#### Everyone is invited to Receive the Bread and the Cup

**Benediction Song:** “We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord”, etc.

**Aaronic Benediction** (Numbers 6:24–26): May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Shalom. Amen.

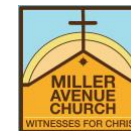
#### Visit our church website: [www.milleravenuechurch.org](http://www.milleravenuechurch.org):

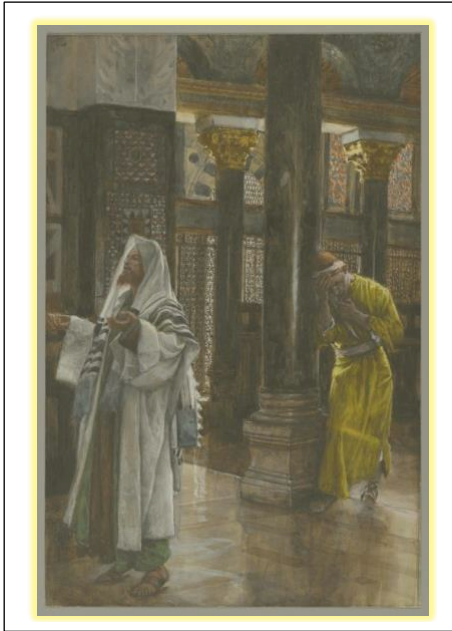
Worship Service Videos, Audio Sermons, Essays, Pastor’s Blog, Community Blog, Newsletters, Bulletins, Photo Gallery, Giving Portal, links to our videos, and more!

Also visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/miller.avenue.church.mill.valley>

#### Did you know?

Our “Miller Avenue Church” video-on-demand apps are now on:  
Your iPhone (at the App Store) or Android phone (at the Play Store)  
Roku, Apple TV, Fire TV, Google TV, YouTube, Cross.TV





**Ministry Associates**

- Kent Philpott** - Senior Pastor
- Katie Philpott** - Associate Pastor
- James Daley** - Associate Pastor
- Doug Fairclough** - Associate Pastor
- Daniel Dover** – Preaching/Handyman
- Andrea Busta** - Audio-Visual
- Shirley Laur** – Pastoral Ministry

← “The Pharisee and the Publican” by James Tissot, 1886–94, Brooklyn Museum

<b>WEEKLY SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	
Morning Worship <i>(in person and via Zoom)</i>	10:30am–12:00pm
Snacks and Gathering	12:20pm–1:20pm
Evening Worship <i>(in person and via Zoom)</i>	suspended
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
Divorce Recovery Workshop <i>(via Zoom)</i>	7:00pm–8:30pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	
Bible Study in the parsonage	6:00pm –7:00 pm
<b>SATURDAY</b>	
Donated Food Pickup front of chapel	11:00am–1:00pm

Miller Avenue Baptist Church  
 285 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941  
[www.milleravenuechurch.org](http://www.milleravenuechurch.org) (415) 388-5993

**Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty,  
 Creator of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,  
 our Lord. He was conceived by the power  
 of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin  
 Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended to the dead. On the third  
 day He rose again. He ascended into  
 heaven and is seated at the right hand  
 of the Father. He will come again  
 to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
 Christian Church, the communion  
 of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. **Amen**

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**Lord’s Prayer**

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 trespasses, as we forgive  
 those who trespass against us.  
 Lead us not into temptation  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory forever. **Amen**

**Visitor Information Card**

*✂ Please tear off and fill out  
 card. Place in offering basket or  
 give to church staff member.*

Today’s Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer Request**

Please pray for:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like someone to  
 contact me to pray over more  
 confidential matters.

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to learn more about:**

- Christianity
- The Bible
- Baptism
- Receiving Counseling
- Deliverance Ministry
- Other

**I am interested in helping with:**

- Lunch
- Fix-up and Clean-up
- Donated Food Pick-up
- Worship music
- Worship Audio/Visual
- Television Crewing
- Pastoral Care Team
- Teaching
- Writing and Publishing
- Website Maintenance
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in attending:**

- Wed. Eve. Divorce Recovery
- Men's Group (TBD)
- Women's Bible Study (TBD)
- Zoom Class on Christian Basics

Other Comments:

**Upcoming Preaching Schedule  
Morning Service:**

- Mar. 12:** Sermon= Luke 18:15–30 (Kent)  
Expo= Romans 6:1–4 (Katie)
- Mar. 19:** Sermon= Luke 18:31–43 (Kent)  
Expo= Romans 6:5–11 (Daniel)
- Mar. 26:** Sermon= Luke 19:1–10 (James)  
Expo= Romans 6:12–14 (Doug)

**Sunday Evening Service:**

Suspended temporarily: In person and Zoomed worship service starts at 6:00 p.m.

Filming schedule at CMCM has resumed most Thursday afternoons. Contact Kent or Katie if you are interested in learning how to crew on our productions.

**TV Program Viewing Schedule**  
*(View all on cable channel 26 or 99)*

*Why We Are Christians: Saturdays 1:30 and Fridays 7:30 PM*  
*Bible Study: Fridays 8:00 PM*  
*Spiritual Paths and the Pastor: Sundays noon, Mondays 2:30 PM*

*For current daily broadcast schedule, check online at [cmcm.tv/watchcommunity](http://cmcm.tv/watchcommunity)*

**Giving:**

Monthly Budget	\$3,500
Giving for February	\$3,004



# Miller Avenue Baptist Church

*An Evangelical\* and Reformed Congregation*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel,  
 for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,  
 to the Jew first and also to the Greek.  
 (Romans 1:16)*

## Welcome!

### March 5, 2023

\*We claim the original, non-political, Biblical meaning of "Gospel Proclamation"