

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

Self-service assistive listening devices are located on top of the bookcase at the rear of the Sanctuary on the Princess Anne St. side.

GATHERING. . .

*Masks are to be worn throughout the service.
Please remain seated for the hymns.*

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

I am Thine, O Lord

The Call To Worship

(from *Psalm 23:1; John 10:14-16*)

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He knows us, and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

The Litany of Adoration

All praise be unto You, O God, Great Shepherd of the sheep. You gather Your people as lambs to Your bosom; You enfold them with Your all-embracing love. You refresh us like a stream flowing freely with living waters; You nourish us like a host whose table is heavy laden. We gather to hear Your refreshing word of promise and direction, to honor Your Name as our guardian and hope. In Jesus' Name we gather and pray. Amen.

*The Hymn 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

*Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of Hosts, and stay;
come with all your loving-kindness; hear your people as we pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within its walls today.*

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!*

*The Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us ... (time for silent confession) ... Forgive us and abide in us by the power of Your spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in Whose body we live and in Whose Name we pray. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News. We are restored to wholeness.

God's Love will abide with us as long as we share it with others.

Our souls will be fed when we focus on feeding others. We will be empowered by prayer and generosity.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 581 in the Hymnal

The Gloria Patri (spoken)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.**

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshipping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The New Testament Lesson: *Acts 4:5-12*

The Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd
Patti Kerns, Bobbie Kerns, Mary Ann Casey, Larry Casey
Ginger Oplinger, violin, John Oplinger, viola

Howard Goodall

The Gospel Lesson: *John 10:11-18*

A Moment With the Children

The Epistle Lesson: *1 John 3:16-24*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

Express
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

The *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The 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 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.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 308

O God in Whom All Life Begins

*O God in whom all life begins, who births the seed to fruit, bestow your blessing on our lives;
here let your love find root. Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts of patience, joy, and peace;
Deliver us from numbing fear, and grant our faith increase.*

*Unite in mutual ministry our minds and hands and hearts that we may have the grace to seek
the power your peace imparts. So let our varied gifts combine to glorify your Name
That in all things by word and deed we may your love proclaim.*

*Through tears and laughter, grief and joy, enlarge our trust and care; so bind us in community
that we may risk and dare. Be with us when we gather here to worship, sing, and pray;
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

*Kindly remain seated during the Postlude. You will be dismissed
by our Safety Ushers from the back to the front of the Sanctuary.
We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.*