

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Hearing assistance devices are available. Please ask a greeter for a receiver.

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Chorale Prelude on *St. Columbia* Charles V. Stanford
from *Six Short Preludes & Postludes*, Set I, Op. 101
Melody for hymn "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 23

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. Praise the Lord!

*HYMN #187

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Ryan Norris, cantor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy upon us, O Lord for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

L: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
Our Lord is kind, caring, compassionate and forgiving.
In the name of Jesus Christ be at peace and know...

P: That we have been forgiven. Thanks be to God!

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

(For those in the sanctuary, please greet one another with a friendly wave.)

GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father

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

God's Word Is Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE VERSE "These Treasured Children"

*Come Holy Spirit, help us be
a nurturing community.*

*Empower us to realize
God's kingdom through our children's eyes.*

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 23

L: The word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT John 10:11-18

L: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus. **P: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Our Good Shepherd Rev. Dr. Mark Mueller

We Respond to God's Word

***HYMN #802**

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Ryan Norris, cantor

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Oh God, on this the Sabbath, your people gather to worship you as Creator and Redeemer. You have blessed us beyond our imagination. Thank you for the sunrise this morning and for the food at our breakfast table. Thank for the shelter of our homes and the friends we enjoy.

P: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

L: On this day we offer prayers for our world, our country, our state, our city and our church. We ask in your great mercy that you will heal the world and guide our efforts to bring glory to your name.

P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

L: And as we lift up those around us, so also do we lift up our lives. We all carry burdens that rob us of a life of peace. Hear us now in our silence as we lift our prayers to you (moment of silence)

P: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

L: Lord, we commit these prayers to you and summarize all of our prayers in the great prayer taught by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (*unison*)

We thank you Lord for our many gifts and we give back the biblical portion as commanded by you. May you bless these gifts and the giver of these gifts that the name of Jesus Christ might reach to the ends of the earth. Amen.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts
And Bear It Into the World

*HYMN #542 "God be with You Till We Meet Again"
Ryan Norris, cantor

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Postlude Pomposo George Blake
(please remain seated during the closing voluntary)

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187

1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.

In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a-stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(Psalm 23)

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow my ran-somed
 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear

fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for-ev-er.
 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
 thy unction grace bestoweth;
 and O what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when *The English Hymnal*, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:
 vide you:
 round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 fore you:

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

OUR MISSION

Gathering in the heart of Nashville, we are a community of disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek the welfare of the city as we seek the kingdom of God.

We are an historic church working to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation. Together we actively share God's grace and love through worship, education and service, and through being an active voice in promoting justice and peace in our community and the world.

OUR VALUES AND ETHOS

- Belief in God's love and in Christ's ministry
- The desire to welcome and embrace everyone. No exceptions.
- Service to God, service to our neighbors
- God's gift of creativity

SESSION 2021

Class of 2021

Jim Hoobler
Mary Turner
David Maddox

Class of 2022

Erin Bell
Tom Byl
Jake Byl

Class of 2023

Tom Wills
Samera Zavaro
Leslie Hughes

THE CHURCH STAFF

Dena Swoner, Office Manager
Paulino Jarquin, Maintenance Manager
Dr. William Taylor, Director of Music
Suzie Lane, Director of Children's Education

Parking

Parking for Sunday worship is in the SP+ garage at **147 4th Ave. N.**

You must come down 4th from Church Street. Parking in this garage is complimentary from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Parking vouchers are necessary to exit the garage without having to pay. To get one, just ask one of our greeters.