



Fourth Sunday in Easter
April 25, 2021
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“The Heart of Worship”
Matt Redman
Jaron Marcus, Piano

GATHERING

We gather as the Body of Christ to encounter God in worship.

Prelude

“Pastorale”
Gordon Young
Brad Stipcak, Organ

CENTERING WORDS

How do we discover the risen Christ in our midst?

Welcome and Announcements

Jon Farrell-Higgins

Responsive Call to Worship

Love one another, even when love involves risk.

We love as God loves us.

Love and care for others, even when caring is hard.

We love and care as God loves and cares for us.

Love in truth and action.

By this we are known as children of God

Prayer of the Day

Unison

Shepherd of love, guide our thoughts and our actions, that we too might become shepherds of love. Speak to our hearts as we listen this day, that our hearts may expand and embrace all of your sheep. Love us fully, that we might love all of the flocks of your world as fully as we are loved by you. In your shepherding love, we pray. Amen.

Musical Interlude

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Charles Callahan

Brad Stipcak, Organ

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

Spirit of the Risen Savior, when we fail to recognize you, we become reluctant to follow in your way. Just as the disciples struggled to comprehend how the Christ could have been a suffering servant, we find it difficult to see you in those who suffer today. We resist starting down the path you have shown us until we know exactly where it will lead. Free us from cynicism and fear. Liberate your world from suspicion and prejudice. Forgive us, Living Lord, and lead us wherever you will.

Amen.

(time for silent prayer)

Kyrie (You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy)

Ashley Young, Soloist

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness”

Ashley Young, Soloist

THE WORD

*The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation
is the center of worship.*

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson

1 John 3: 16-24

This is how we know love: Jesus laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help—how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?

Little children, let's not love with words or speech but with action and truth. This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence. Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things. Dear friends, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have confidence in relationship to God. We receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love each other as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments dwell in God and God dwells in them. This is how we know that he dwells in us, because of the Spirit he has given us.

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson

John 10: 11-18

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. That's because he isn't the shepherd; the sheep aren't really his. So the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. He's only a hired hand and the sheep don't matter to him.

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I give up my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that don't belong to this sheep pen. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice and there will be one flock, with one shepherd.

"This is why the Father loves me: I give up my life so that I can take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I give it up because I want to. I have the

right to give it up, and I have the right to take it up again. I received this commandment from my Father.”

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our substance.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Meditation on ‘Abide with Me’”

Charles Callahan

Brad Stipcak, Organ

Doxology

Ashley Young, Soloist

*Prayer of Dedication and 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.

SENDING FORTH

Worship equips us to go forth to serve God in the world.

*Charge and Blessing

*Sung Response

“Now Go in Joy”

Ashley Young, Soloist

*Postlude

“Glory To God Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Paul Vasile

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Jon Farrell-Higgins, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Dir. Of Music, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Ashley Young, Soloist

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

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