

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on the Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Welcome

Prelude: *The King of Love My shepherd Is* – Dale Wood

Call to Worship

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
³ he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴ **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**
⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**
Let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day

We are your people, O God— the sheep of your pasture, the flock you have gathered.
Lead us beside still waters; teach us the way of righteousness; and feed us at your table;
through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn #610: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Call to Confession

If we are honest with ourselves,
our hearts condemn us.
But God, who knows everything,
is greater than our hearts;

and God's deep desire for us
is mercy, love, and peace.
Therefore let us confess our sin.

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.
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.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

We seek God's grace with boldness
because we trust in Jesus Christ,
the One who loves us
and laid down his life for us.
This is the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Gloria #582: *Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

God of goodness and mercy, **hear our 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**

Hymn #187: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Special Music: *The Lord is My Shepherd*

Gospel Lesson: John 10:11-18

Sermon: Known By Love

Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967, 9.22)

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand except God's grace.

Closing Hymn #463: *How Firm a Foundation*

Charge

In the name of the good shepherd,
love one another. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the goodness and mercy of God
follow you all the days of your life,
and, at your life's end, may you dwell
in the house of the Lord forever. **Alleluia!**

Postlude: *Grateful Praise* – Paul Taylor

Fellowship in the Sanctuary

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, used by permission.