



Tabitha, Sarah Beth Baca

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Fourth Sunday
of Easter
Sunday, May 8, 2022
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

God prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemies;

God anoints our heads with the oil of blessing.

Goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives,

and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together. May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Jeff Moles

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God is present to guide our journey and eager to forgive us when we go astray; therefore, in humility and faith, let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in the presence of our enemies, we divide and demonize. When you face our enemies, you choose neither contempt nor punishment, but set a table and make provision for us all. Our ways are not your ways, O Creator, and they are an affront to the work of your hands. Have mercy on us, O God, and heal us. Send our risen Lord among us again to repair relationships and restore humanity. Set us free to share the love of Christ Jesus just as he does at his table.

Silence is kept.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the sound of your Shepherd's voice:

Jesus says, I give you eternal life.

You will never perish.

No one can snatch you out of my hand.

Believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, nurtured, and safe.**

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 821)

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

*No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Shepherd of Souls, you call us to an abundant feast at the table of your word; open our hearts to feed on your goodness, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we might dwell evermore deeply in you. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23 A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

Acts 9:36-43 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Articles of Faith”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from a Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

The Lord is My Shepherd

Thomas Matthews

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. You may take communion by taking a small piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Pre-packaged elements are also available in baskets for a contact-free option.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and cup. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work—only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Patti Price*

Communion Servers: *Jerry & Glenda Price*



The flowers today are given by Cindy Little in memory of her mother, Sue Birdlow.

The Life of the Church

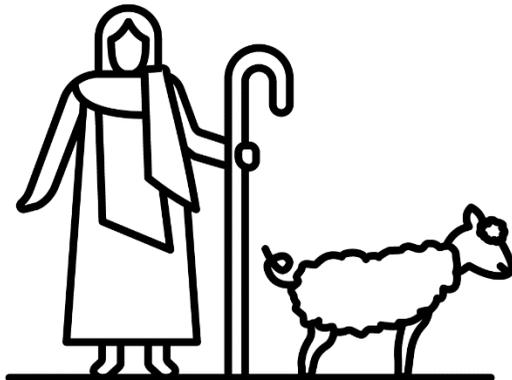
Vacation Bible School will be held June 6-10. Kids age 4 through 5th grade will gather from 9am-Noon to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as we celebrate our call to be caretakers of God's creation. Register online at bit.ly/FPCVBS2022. We will need many volunteers to pull off a special week for our young people. Contact Stephanie Dube or Jeff Moles if you are interested in helping.

A piano recital given by Dr. Kevin Priebe of Kentucky Wesleyan will be held in our sanctuary this afternoon at 2:00. Selections will include piano sonatas by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven. Dr. Priebe holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Cleveland Institute of Music and has been heard in concerts at venues across the country, including Carnegie Hall.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, we will hold a celebration of the creative arts following worship. This will be an opportunity for members of our church community to share their creativity with us all – painting, quilting, crafting, photography, and more. There will be more information soon about how to participate.

Christian Education Committee will meet today following worship in the Library.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.



**Your rod and your staff -
they comfort me.**



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive
community of faith called to proclaim
the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people,
and to join God in the building of a
just, peaceful, and compassionate world.



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Rev. Matt Curry, Pastor
Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music
Patrick Ritsch, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Staci Estes Horn, Financial Secretary
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Kate Bowley, Nursery Care Provider