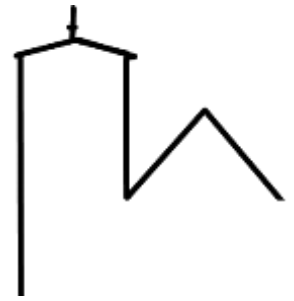


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1420 West Moss Avenue
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25 April 2021

Ten O'clock

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 and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

... from the Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA)

GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

Prelude on 'Brother James' Air'

M. Searle Wright

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Clark-Jones

One: *The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.*

All: **He lays down his life for his sheep.**

One: *The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.*

All: **He knows us, and we belong to him.**

One: *The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.*

All: **He speaks, and we listen for his voice.**

***THE HYMN 416**

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

**1. 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.**

**3. Here bestow on all your servants
What they ask of you to gain
What they gain from you forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in your glory
Evermore with you to reign.**

**2. To this temple where we call you,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today,
With your wonted lovingkindness
Hear your servants as they pray.
And your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls always.**

**4. 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.**

Text: 7th century Latin
Music: Henry Purcell, 1659-1695

***CALL TO CONFESSIONS**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*praying together*)

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the deceits and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord; And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

***TIME OF SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

***KYRIE**

John Weaver

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

© John Weaver. Used with permission.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI**

John Weaver

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it: as it was in the be -
gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er.
A - men. A - - - men. A - men.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹ This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹² There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

THE PSALTER:

Psalm 23

St. Columba

1. The King of love, my shepherd is
Whose goodness faileth never
I nothing lack if I am his,
And he is mine forever.

3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed
But yet in love he sought me.
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.

5. Thou spreadest a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth,
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

4. In death's dark vale, I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff me comfort still;
Thy cross before to guide me.

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

Text: Henry Williams Baker, 1868
Music: Ancient Irish

EPISTLE: I John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

SERMON

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 387

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need thy tender care,
In thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For thy use our folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2. Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee.

3. Early let us seek thy favor,
Early let us do thy will,
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Text: Thrup's *Hymns for the Young*, 1836
Music: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1859

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Psalm 23

John Rutter

**The Westminster Quartet
Matthew Winkler, saxophone**

THE LORD is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table for me, against them that trouble me; thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SEALING THE WORD

INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS

(... In your mercy ... Lord hear our prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *[praying together]*

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.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 76**

My Song Is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

1. My song is love unknown

2. Christ came from heaven's throne,

My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, That for my sake,
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

3. Sometimes they strew his way,
And his sweet praises sing.
Resounding all the way
Hosannas to their king
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
And for his death they thirst and cry.

Salvation to bestow,
But people scorned and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But O my Friend, My Friend indeed,
Who at my need his life did spend!

4. They rise; and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The prince of life they slay.
Yet, steadfast he to suffering goes,
That he his foes from thence might free.

5. Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine:
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1664
Music: John Ireland, 1918

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, *Pastor*
Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist-Choirmaster*
The Westminster Quartet
Melissa Blain, *soprano*; Kate Kortemeier, *alto*
J. Douglas McQueen, *tenor*; David Kortemeier, *baritone*
Matthew Winkler, *Saxophone soloist*
Elder Larry Hicks, *Video Producer*

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA. We are pleased to be worshipping once again as a congregation here on Moss Avenue. We trust that this service will bring blessing and hope. We welcome those worshipping with us via the World Wide Web where we are live-streaming this service. Our thanks to Elder Larry Hicks who has made the live-streaming possible through his expertise in web design.

THE SERVICE MUSIC and rights to live-stream this service are given through our license A-726060 issued by OneLicense.net (Chicago, Illinois).

Christ sacrifice
life He is rejoice joy
Jesus hope crucifixion
SAVIOR
REDEEMER
amazing grace
LOVE mercy

RISEN

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25 APRIL 2021

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA

A Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of the Great Rivers

1420 West Moss Avenue + + + Peoria, Illinois 61606

www.westminsterpeoria.org

A Prayer of St. John Chrysostom ...

ALMIGHTY GOD,
*who hast given us grace at this time
with one accord
to make our common supplications unto thee;
and dost promise,
that when two or three are gathered together
in thy Name
thou wilt grant their requests;
Fulfill now, O Lord,
the desires and petitions of thy servants,
as may be most expedient for them;
granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth,
and in the world to come
life everlasting. Amen.*

... The Prayer Book, 1662

OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS