

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 22, 2018

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“Echoes of Triumph” (Barrett)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.**

He leads me in right paths
for his name’s sake.

**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.

**You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;**

you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**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.**

***OPENING HYMN #619**

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven” (Goss)

***OPENING PRAYER**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our Shepherd, we confess that we are unruly and unwilling sheep. In our foolishness, we ignore the boundaries you set for us, for our own good, and we go our own way. In doing so we find ourselves lost, anxious, and fearful. We think we know what is best for us, but we end up injuring ourselves and injuring others, and we damage the bond of trust that holds us to you. Forgive us, willful and foolish sheep, we pray. Guide us by your rod and your staff; show us the right way, the way of peace and obedience. We pray in the name of the Good Shepherd. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #581**

“Gloria Patri” (Greateorex)

**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 THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: “The peace of the Lord be with you.” “And also with you.”

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“Psalm 23 - The Lord is My Shepherd” (Pote)

***READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

John 10:11-18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

A MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SERMON

“Our Soul Relationship”

***HYMN #819**

“Be Still, My Soul” (Sibelius)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From The Confession of 1967

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humanity. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER

RETURNING TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

MUSICAL OFFERING

"I Thank You" (Wayne Beavers)

***PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW #606**

(Genevan Psalter)

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

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

God, our Shepherd, our experience affirms the psalmist's words: indeed, you lead us to green pastures and beside still waters, all of our days. When our souls are wearied and broken, you restore them in your abundant grace. When we walk through the darkest valleys, in times of illness and grief and fear, you are with us; you comfort us in every dark valley. You anoint our heads with oil. Yes, our cups overflow. By your mighty hand, goodness and mercy follow us all our days.

In thanksgiving we respond: we pledge ourselves to your service, and the service of those in need around us. We renew our vows of obedience and faithfulness. Send your Holy Spirit, we pray, so that we may hold tight to our convictions. We pray in the name of the Good Shepherd, Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,
holy is your name;
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN #473** *“Shepherd Me, O God”* (Haugen)
(Choir will sing, then the congregation; then we will pray the prayer on the
hymn page. Then we will sing the refrain again.)

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.

Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.