



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Serving Christ and Neighbor in the Heart of Winchester & Beyond



Good shepherd. Russian icon, 19 c. Niederland, private collection

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

WORSHIP ONLINE & AT HOME





You are invited from your home to participate in the elements of worship preceded in **BOLD**.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

PRELUDE “This Joyful Eastertide (Vruechten)”

Pat Byers, organ

John Ferguson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

All: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

Leader: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

All: Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.

Leader: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

All: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

HYMN 238 “Thine Is The Glory”

Gordon and Colleen Stearns, vocals

JUDAS MACCABEUS

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con- quering Son; end - less is
2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness
with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

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WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Lord, you are our Shepherd. You seek us when we are lost and guide us in life-giving ways. Yet, we turn from you and heed the voices of thieves and bandits. You know us by name, but we refuse to hear your call and instead go our own way. Forgive us for failing to follow you. Quiet the noise around and within us so that we might better recognize your word and do your will. Come close, calm our fears, go ahead of us, so that we might see you clearly, enter by the gate and be saved. **Amen.**

Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we need not fear evil. God is with us. God's rod and staff comforts us. God forgives and transforms us. Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SPECIAL MUSIC "The Gift of Love" Colleen & Gordon Stearns, vocals

arr. Hal Hopson

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:42-47; John 10:1-10

I Am the Gate

¹I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. ²The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. ⁵They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." ⁶Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying.

⁷So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

SERMON "Hearing Voices" The Rev. Dr. Dan McCoig Jr.

RESPONSE

God strengthens us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

[...the petitions conclude...] Leader: And now as Christ taught us, we are bold to pray...

All: 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.**

OFFERTORY "We Believe" Colleen Stearns, soprano

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

HYMN 263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!” Mikayla Hatfield, soprano CORONATION

- 1 All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
- 2 Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race, ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
- 3 Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!
- 4 O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Devote yourself to the teachings of the gospel, to your prayers and our Christian fellowship day by day, for they will lead to a glad and generous heart. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE “Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!” Gelobt Sei Gott

A worship service will be broadcast each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. You can find worship videos online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchwinchester>

<https://www.fpcwinc.org/virtual>

What can you do during this time?

- Support our church’s elected leaders and staff. We have been making some hard decisions on the fly without a roadmap. We are learning to lean ever more closely on God and one another more and more as we lead in this crisis. We are humbled by the trust you place in us to lead well and wisely.
- Maintain your giving to the church according to your ability. Our financial obligations remain as does yours – mission commitments, staff salaries, utilities, insurance, planned maintenance of a sizeable facility. You can send your offering via USPS [116 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601] or you can give electronically using the “Donate” button on our website. Thank you. [<https://fpcwinc.org/stewardship/donate>]
- Check on your neighbors. There are folks who are impacted harshly by the disruptions of this pandemic than others. They need us and we can help.
- Pray for your church family. Make phone calls. Send emails. Mail cards. Let folks know they are remembered and loved.
- Practice Sabbath. Set aside time to be with God, to be silent, to listen for the whispers of the Spirit, to release your anxiety and fear, to renew, to rest.