
Church for A New Time

God Summons Us To:

- ◆ *Faithful Growth* ◆ *Bold Witness*
 - ◆ *Compassionate Mission*
-

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen
Sunday Worship – May 8, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day



*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.*

- Psalm 23:4

Opening Sentences

- Alleluia, Christ is risen! Blessing and honor are yours, O God. Glory to God forever. Alleluia!
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Please rise in body or in spirit for the Call to Worship.

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**We have come to fall on our faces before the throne
and worship the Lord with singing!**

Together, we say "Amen!"

**Together we proclaim that blessing and glory
and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!**

Let us worship God.

Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

GG #268

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Prayer of the Day

Loving Shepherd, may the wonders of your love reach down to us this day.

As Peter raised Tabitha from the dead, raise us also to new life.

Wake us from the slumber that numbs our spirit,
even as you nourish us in the strength of your Spirit.

Pour out your grace

that we might dwell with you our whole lives long

and may the world see the shepherd living in us. Amen.

Call to Confession

Even if we walk in the darkest of valleys,
we have nothing to fear, for God is with us.
Let us stand before the throne of the lamb with confidence,
trusting in God's desire to redeem and restore us.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,
we confess that we have strayed
from your paths of right relationship and peace,
and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation;
we repent of these hurtful ways.
Have mercy on us and heal us.
Send our risen Lord among us again
to repair relationships and restore humanity.
Forgive us we pray, as we learn to forgive others,
and guide us in the way of peace.**

A moment of silent prayer.



Declaration of Forgiveness

We are an Easter people, forgiven and freed,
ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace.
Jesus says, I give you eternal life.
You will never perish.
No one can cast you out of my hand.
Believe the good news.
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made whole!
Thanks be to God!**

Act of Praise

The Day of Resurrection!, v. 1

GG #233

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

God our helper,
guide us into and through your word,
that we might be shaped by your Spirit's message to us today
and transformed for service in your world. Amen.

A Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 23 (NRSV)

The 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.



New Testament Reading

Acts 9:36-43 (NRSV)

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.

Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**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.**

Hymn

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

GG #187

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.

We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Holy and Gracious God,
we give you thanks and praise for your ever-present love
and for the gift of your son, the Lamb, who shepherds us.
We need your guidance and protection.
We need your light.

May we hear his voice leading us to life abundant through you.

Speak to us today that we might follow you.

... Speak to those who mourn loss and change ... speak words of assurance so that they might hear your voice and follow you to hope.

... Speak to those who argue and fight ... speak words of reconciliation so that they might hear your voice and follow you to peace.



... Speak to those who fear people unlike them ... speak words of compassion so that they might hear your voice and follow you to love.

... Speak to those who hunger and thirst ... speak words of abundance so that they might hear your voice and follow you to contentment.

... Speak to those who suffer with sickness, need, or danger ... speak words of your comforting presence that they might follow you to healing.

... Speak to mothers around the world today, for the countless ways mothers and mother-figures nurture, educate and inspire ... speak words of gratitude that they might hear your voice and follow you to blessing.

Risen Lord, speak up and speak out in ways that we can hear and understand. Help us listen and know your voice and follow you.

As the Body of Christ, hear us now as we pray as Christ taught us,
“Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Invitation to the Offering

God of all, you give us all that we need and more.

You charged Peter to feed your sheep.

May the gifts we give “Feed your sheep”.

Let us present our tithes and offerings to God.

Offertory

Hymn of Thanksgiving

The Day of Resurrection!, v. 3

GG #233

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

Prayer of Dedication

Risen Savior, responding to your love and grace,
we offer our gifts of time, talent and service.
May our offerings feed the hungry,
cloth the poor, quench the thirsty,
and shelter the vulnerable. Amen.

Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons), vv. 1-4

GG #726

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me? “

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

The Life of the Church

Charge and Benediction

Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed!
Live into the hope of Christ’s resurrection!
Honor the God who calls you to new life!
May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator,
Redeemer and Sustainer be with you now and always. Amen.

Congregational Response

Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons), v. 5

GG #726

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Postlude

Today's Worship Leaders:

FPC Session

Beverly Avila

Robert Garza

Ale Pacheco

FPC Chancel Choir

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