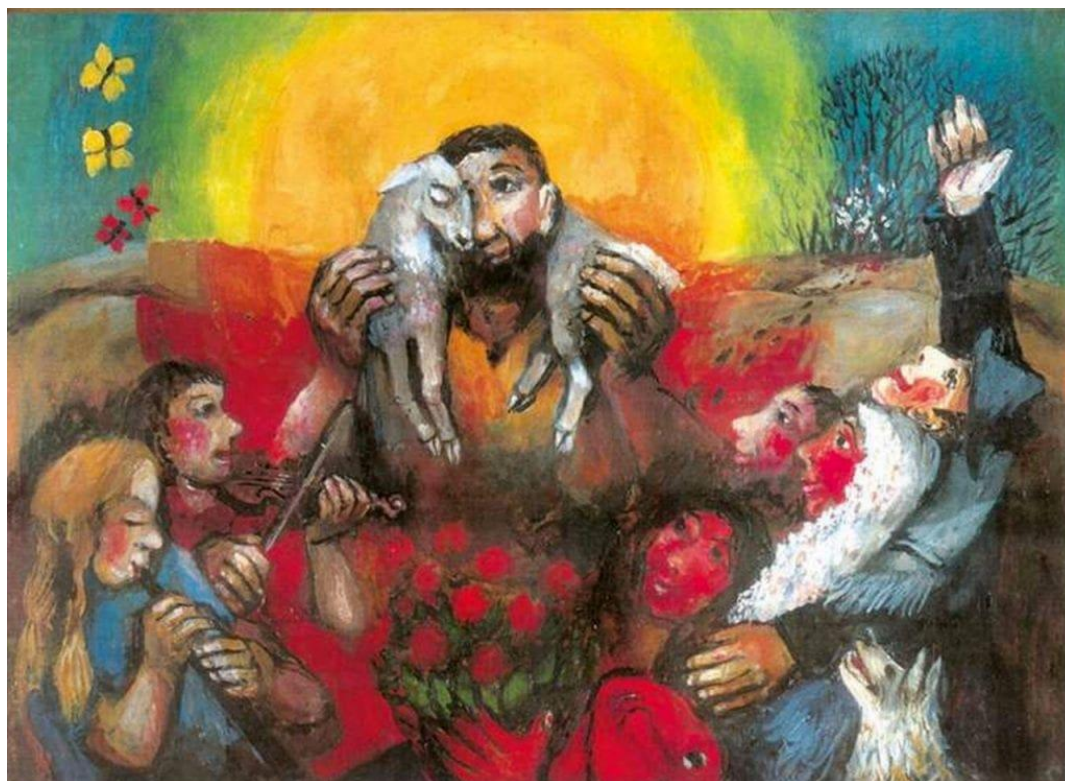


Worship – Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen



Sieger Köder
The Good Shepherd

Opening Sentences

- The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Shepherd calls us by name
and leads us to abundant life.

We hear your voice and hasten to follow.

The Shepherd prepares a table
and lavishly pours out grace.

**We hear your invitation
and take our place at the feast.**

The Shepherd gathers us in
and welcomes us to the house of the Lord.

We hear your call and give you praise.

Hymn

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

GG #803

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

Prayer of the Day

Good Shepherd,
you call us by name,
and we know your voice.
Open the gate for us,
that we may come and go freely,
have life,
and have it abundantly.
Amen.

Call to Confession

Christ is the good shepherd,
who leads us to safety and peace
no matter what we have done.
Christ's voice calls us
to repent and return.
Let us heed that voice
and to go God in prayer.



3rd Century
Allegory of Christ as the Good Shepherd

Prayer of Confession

**We have gone astray, O Shepherd.
You call us to follow,
and we hear your voice.
Yet, we choose to heed other voices –
voices that promise status and comfort
and a carefree life.
But such promises are empty,
and that life does not satisfy.**

**Call to us again, O Shepherd.
Summon us onto right paths
to pursue justice in your name,
to seek after the well-being of all.
Lead us to the table you prepare for us –
where rivals share both bread and blessing
and discover there is enough for all.**



Henry Ossawa Tanner
The Good Shepherd

Assurance of Pardon

The One who anoints our heads with oil,
the One who feeds us at an abundant table,
the One who delivers us from evil,
invites us to dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
Rejoice in the good news:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Act of Praise Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks, v. 4 GG #240

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain*

Passing the Peace

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

Life of the Church

Time with the Younger Church

Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us to be devoted to the teachings of your Word, that through it we may hear your voice and follow it into eternal life. Amen.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Anthem

Gospel Reading

John 10:1-10

[Jesus said] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life and in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

(Source: A New Creed; United Church of Canada)

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.

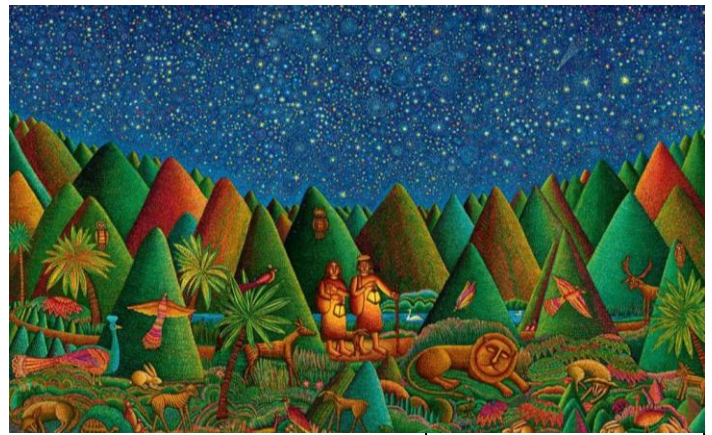
Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Shepherding God, in a dangerous world,
let us hear your voice and come and go through your gate.

We pray for the whole church,
that we may be devoted to your Word
and to universal fellowship.
being generous to all who have need.

We pray for the earth,
for green pastures and still waters,
that we may restore them to
the goodness and purity that they had
at the time that you created them.



John August Swanson
Psalm 23

We pray for the people of the world,
their nations, and leaders,
that your wisdom and peace may govern all,
so that no one will fear.

We pray for all who are in need of any kind,
for those in want,
those ill and those dying,
that we may be the banquet that you set before them
as we anoint them, feed them, and comfort them
in your name.

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.
May no one lie in fear; may all dwell in your presence.

Blessed are you, Great Shepherd,
who, through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,
gives us goodness and mercy,
leads us down right paths and restores our souls.

We lift these prayers to you, O God, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
and we say together the prayer he has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Invitation to the Offering

Friends, our God has prepared a table before us and our cup overflows.
So let us give generously from our common wealth,
as our way of praising God and serving God’s kingdom.

Offertory

Act of Dedication Holy, Holy, Holy / *Santo, Santo Santo* GG #595

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!

Santo, santo, santo. Mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón re sabe decir: Santo eres, Señor!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy and generous God,
you have anointed us and we are yours.
Bless these tithes and offerings
that they may become green pastures and still waters
for all who need your comfort and restoration. Amen.

Hymn God Be with You Till We Meet Again

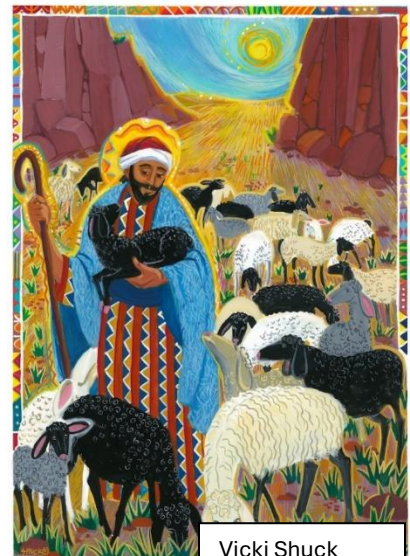
GG #542

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
when life’s perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love’s banner floating o’er you;
smite death’s threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.



Vicki Shuck
Good Shepherd

Charge and Benediction

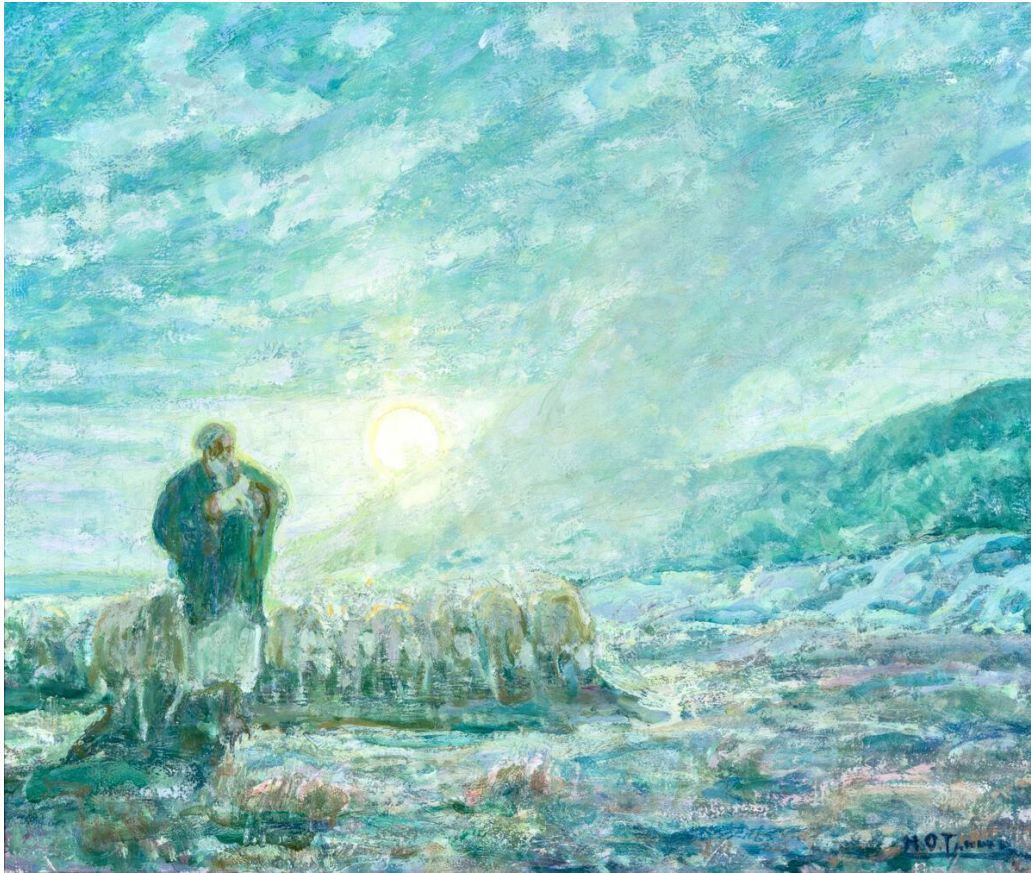
Congregational Response The Day of Resurrection, v. 3 GG 233

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.

Postlude

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| Worship Leaders: | Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell | Caly Fernandez | |
| Beverly Avila | Robert Garza | Ale Pacheco | FPC Chancel Choir |

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Henry Ossawa Tanner
The Good Shepherd