

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”
He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

John 21

The Church Gathers To...

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Katie Styr

Preparation for Worship

Worshippers are invited to meditate silently during the following prelude.

Prelude

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

L: O Lord, you are our shepherd;

C: we shall not be in want.

L: Your creative grace is visible in lush green pastures

C: and revealed in still, clear waters.

L: Your restoring resurrecting Spirit revives our souls and our communities,

C: and you guide us in ways of righteousness for the sake of your earth.

L: We pray for the earth you create and love:

C: for people, families, nations, and species that dwell in the valley of the shadow of death;

L: for all who fear the evils of pollution, violence, depredation, and illness;

C: for those whose suffering is on our hearts this morning, and for those whom we will never meet.

L: Shepherding God, be with your people;

C: with your rod and your staff, restore us and lead us.

L: Spread your table of abundance before those who hunger and thirst;

C: set us free from enmity and division.

L: Anoint us with your calling to reconciliation,

C: and let the cup of our life overflow

L: with shalom and life for all your creation.

C: Let your goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life,

L: and make this earth your home forever,

All: in Jesus' name. Amen.



1. "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2. "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
4. "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Call to Confession - Sing "*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*" one time.

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle - ness,
blow through the wil - der - ness, call - ing and free.
Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less - ness, stir me from
plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

L: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

C: But, O Lord, we are consumed with wanting more.

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

C: But, O Lord, other pastures seem greener. The waters aren't always still. Our souls still thirst.

L: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

C: O Lord, we long to be led by you, though we may complain along the path.

L: 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.

C: And yet, O God, we do sometimes fear. May we feel your presence, your comfort and your forgiveness anew.

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

C: O God, sometimes we refuse to sit down at your table. Forgive us and help us to see your overflowing mercy.

L: 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.

C: Forgive us, God, and lead us into your house.

Following the Prayer of Confession, please sing "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" one time.

Assurance of Pardon

L: This we know for certain - we are forgiven by our gracious God. This good news never ceases to astound us!

C: This promise is passed on to us, so we may share it with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Listen for God's Word

Scripture Reading

John 21:1-19

The New Testament page 115

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Feed My Sheep

Rev. Mark Galbraith

Respond to God's Word

Hymn

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY



1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2. We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard - ian of our way.
3. You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4. Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.



In your pleas - ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.
Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.



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Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

L: God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Lord's Prayer - *(Traditional) Page 16 in the hymnal.*

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

In the gift of money, we offer something of our work and selves to God.

Sonata in E-flat, K. 68

Domenico Scarlatti

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

Please sing the Doxology - Hymn Tune: Old Hundredth, 592 in the hymnal.

To donate, please visit the church website, fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>, or mail your check in to the church office.

Prayer of Dedication

L: Together. We pray:

C: As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Andante in F, K. 616

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers are Welcome for: Carlen Brinser; Nancy Buening (*mother of Rebecca Buening-Ferris*); family of Gary Ewoldt (*death of Father*); Luann Field (*death of mother, Ann Snyder*); Leona Hill (*mother of Julie Belman*); Jolene Keeney; Wilton Retirement Community; families and victims of abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

God's beloved people of First Presbyterian Church:

Grace and Peace to you from the One is was, is and is to come, Amen.

I'm writing to provide updates as to continuing work in the interim process, as well as reiterate information for those who were not able to read last week's update.

Again, a heartfelt thank you, thank you for all your positive comments, expressions of support, and prayers as received in person, on social media, and emails. During this challenging, but opportune time we are ever about finding creative ways to remain connected and to be in ministry together. Your support means so much to us as we continue to exercise faithful and productive ministry through this pandemic.

Your Session, staff, and Mission Group leaders continues to comb through the Mission Study Groups responses, picking out the highlight reel from each group of responses.

To review, the purpose of this review is to identify Mission Goals that surface, to be formatted in the Power Point for consideration and consensus. These are missional priorities that will inform the MIF (Ministry Information Form, the document that communicates all pertinent information about a congregational setting in call process, including its Mission Goals) narrative, so the next Pastor /Head of Staff understands what these are, and that the congregation is invested in them.

It was my goal to present a subsequent PowerPoint presentation of the summary and recommendations from these mission study groups by May 3, after worship service, but as you know, the pandemic has upended all of our lives and schedules. We are going month by month to discern when it will be appropriate for us to resume normal ministry and operations, and to be together in-person as a community.

I'm confident that God will provide the right and best moment for us to be together as a community again, including sharing this PowerPoint presentation.

As you may know, the Session, at the April 20 meeting, set the goal of Pentecost Sunday, May 31, to reopen our campus for in-house services and programs, pending further developments and statewide and federal guidelines. Watch the e-news for updates.

When the way is clear for the MCC (Ministers and Congregations Commission: The oversight board of the Presbytery for all transition and interim processes) to authorize and recommend the nomination of a PNC (Pastoral Nominating Committee), The PNC will use this summary of the mission study groups as one of the resources to complete the MIF.

As many of you know, that as a outcome of the departure of your previous pastor, there were questions raised by some of our members in the courts of the church. One of these questions was on the agenda the GAPJC (The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission is a permanent commission of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that exercises church discipline through judicial process), which functions as the Supreme Court of the Presbyterian Church USA, for its April 24-26 meeting, 2020.

In a letter to the Session, I wrote:

"Our Presbytery Stated Clerk, Dr. Rebecca Blair has informed me that the GAPJC has rendered its decision on the appeal.

The appeal was denied on all counts.

The GAPJC has directed the Synod and the Presbytery to spread this official decision on the minutes at the next stated meeting of each of these councils. This action constitutes the official notification to the members of each of these bodies of the GAPJC ruling.

Continued on the following page

As I said in my letter to the congregation with updates on the interim process, Dr. Blair will meet with the session at either the regularly scheduled meeting on May 17 or at another scheduled meeting, pending official reporting of this ruling to the Synod and the Presbytery.

The text of the decision is available on the PC USA website under General Assembly for your review and information.

Dr. Blair and Pastor Jennings will meet with us to provide further information and interpretation, as well as discussion of next steps, and considerations for appropriate communication of this decision and its implications for the congregation (using the approved communication strategy approved at the February session meeting) and for the interim process. The GAPJC, as part of its decisions and directives, urged that all interested parties conduct a reconciliation process, likely with an outside mediator, as part of the healing and interim process.

We will wait Dr. Blair's advisement as to the appropriate time for our meeting together."

Subsequently, in consultation with Dr Blair and The Rev. Jennifer Jennings, Chair of the MCC and liaison to FPC-D for the interim process, they will meet with the Session in Executive Session, May 7, to provide information and interpretation of the ruling of the GAPJC, as well as discussion about it's impact as to next steps for communication and the interim process.

Friends, the events leading up to this appeal process has had a significant impact on the life and health of this congregation, including the relationships with multiple parties. Included in the tasks of the interim work (as stated in my contract) are to *"Assist the congregation to review its history"*, and to *"Renew and strengthen the relations of the Congregation with the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly."* It is my calling as Interim Pastor to help bring our entire congregation to a healthy place of readiness to consider candidates who will partner with you as Lead Pastor in your next chapter of ministry.

The MCC and the PCC (Presbytery Coordinating Commission: The PCC functions as the strategic leadership team that coordinates the ministry and mission for the Presbytery. This team is comprised of a teaching and ruling elder (one of which is the moderator) from each standing team and the Presbytery officers) insist that we have healthier relationships, both in our interior life and in our relationship to Presbytery, prior to allowing the nomination of a PNC.

My calling and focus is to help you as an entire congregation to be ready for this next and desired step, however hard or time-consuming it is, and whether or not any one of us perceives the need for such a process.

As your Interim Pastor, I ask that, throughout this interim process together, you to take to heart that reconciliation is a biblical calling we are all obligated to pursue, as ordained officers and as a community alike, who bears Jesus' name.

As the Apostle Paul challenges us to embrace *"all this (responsibility) is from God, who reconciled us with himself through Christ, and gives us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18)."* Peace on earth begins within and between all those of good conscience who have been part of this conflict.

Finally take to heart, dear friends in Christ, that although we are chomping at the bit, and this feels like more *"hurry up and wait"*, I for one am encouraged that in God's providence no time is wasted time. In fact this is a rich teaching time (during a pandemic, to boot!) for all of us to learn much about ourselves, each other, and God.

Thank you for all you do, and for being the best part of this ministry.

Keep the faith, stay the course, keep the prayers coming, and be safe.

Respectfully,
In Partnership,

Pastor Mark Galbraith
Interim Pastor, Head of Staff, and Moderator of the Session

A Prayer from Pastor Pilar

Merciful God, Full of gratitude we come to you, so that you take us in your hands and save us from all evil. We are in your hands of mercy. In this time of pandemic we have many risks: the risk of distancing ourselves, the risk of forgetting your love, the risk of falling into despair. May your Holy Spirit fill us with strength and hope to endure and endure this time of uncertainty. Come Holy Spirit to our sister Churches in Iowa and Illinois and for each and every one of our brothers and sisters in the United States. Our faith and hope is to be close to each other in solidarity and love. Jesus the Risen One fill us with his Grace to know how to walk with wisdom in this time. Amen.

Other Ways to Experience Worship

We know that not everybody is comfortable with sharing worship services digitally. If you would prefer to receive a DVD of Sunday worship, please contact the church office with your information. If you would prefer a written transcript instead, let the church office know. We want everybody to be able to praise God during this strange time!

Worship Watch Party

Our worship services are pre-recorded so that they can have closed captions and higher video quality. However, we miss praying with you all at the same time! If you do too, join us on Facebook every Sunday at 9:30 AM. Go to our church Facebook page and join our worship video watch party - you'll be able to chat with other people and know that we're worshipping together. Be with you then!

Online Harpsichord Recital - Tuesday, May 12 at Noon

Matt Bishop will offer a free online harpsichord recital on Facebook on Tuesday, May 12 at noon. This will be 30-minute recital featuring works by William Byrd, Johann Froberger, and Carlos Seixas on the church's Lindholm harpsichord. The video will be available on the church's Facebook page. Enjoy some Baroque music with your lunch!

Bible Basics 201 – Holy Days and Festivals

We will meet online via Zoom until further notice. Our meetings will be Wednesdays at 6:15 PM. To join the study, you can click on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/104294135>. If you already have a Zoom app, enter the meeting ID: 104 294 135. If you'd rather call in instead of using a computer, dial this number: 1 253 215 8782 and then input the meeting ID. Contact Pastor Katie for tech support or if you need the event password.

We continue our post-Easter study focusing on the Bible stories which led to holidays, either for Presbyterians or other believers. Join us for stories of triumph, hope, and praise. Contact Rev. Katie if you'd like to get on the email list for more information!

May 6: Yom Kippur, Leviticus 23:26-31 and Exodus 34

One Great Hour of Sharing Collection

At the beginning of Lent, we handed out fish-shaped banks and asked you to donate your change for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Since we were unable to bring our banks to worship on Easter Sunday, we'll have to donate another way. If you have cash to donate, bring your fish bank by the church office from 10:30 AM to noon on Wednesdays - ring the doorbell and drop off your fish! If you'd rather donate online, go to <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>. These donations go to help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and support community-based aid programs. This year more than ever, we need your support!

Monday Funday

Calling all kids! Join us on ZOOM (<https://zoom.us/j/985357599>) at 4:00 PM each Monday for a mini-Kirkwood Club! We'll have time to catch up with each other, pray, and play together. Kids of all ages are invited; contact Pastor Katie if you need tech support or the event password.

Musikgarten and Cherubs Have Gone Virtual!

We launched on Sunday, March 29 and will continue our Zoom classes until we can get back to seeing each other in person. We'll meet for Cherubs at 8:45 AM on Sunday mornings and continue right into Musikgarten from 9:00-9:30 AM. You can stay on for both classes or choose the one you want to attend. If you are reading this and have young children who would like to join us but are not on my email list, reach out to me and I will add you so I can send you the link each week. It's probably going to be noisy, we'll probably have a glitch here and there and it will undoubtedly be a little chaotic but that's ok! We all need to see each other and talk and laugh with each other. For more info, contact Kathy Middleton, kathrynbl5@gmail.com.

Dear Friends in Divine Drama class and the great people of First Presbyterian Church:

"The Divine Drama Part II: Our Narrative" continues with Unit 22 "Law and Gospel." For those of you who haven't joined us, but still wish to, there is no better time to do so than now!

"The Divine Drama: Our Narrative" is a 14-unit overview of the biblical basis for core Christian teachings we all share together.

Even though on-campus gatherings are postponed until further notice, the ministry of FPC never is "cancelled". Your pastors and staff are ever at work finding ways to bring to you ministry resources, because the ministry of FPC continues forward in confidence and strength.

As a friendly reminder on another important note: As we are navigating our way through this pandemic, please continue to faithfully and kindly support God's and your church with your pledges and offerings. Your pastors, staff and leadership are committed to continuing to provide at maximum productivity the ministry in partnership with you, faithfulness to God's calling on all of us.

The Divine Drama will continue as scheduled in this format until further notice. Please join me for the Divine Drama class via the Zoom links provided below. These are for both the 9:30 AM and 7:30 PM Divine Drama classes.

Please RSVP your intentions to attend so I can know how to plan. I look forward to seeing you on Divine Drama, the Zoom way.

In Partnership with you,

Pastor Mark <https://zoom.us/j/928313279> Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:00 AM
 <https://zoom.us/j/483545060> Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 PM

Broadway Musical: Guys and Dolls

NEW DATES! Saturday, June 27, 7:30 PM, Sunday, June 28, 4:00 PM

\$15 adult/\$10 student

The talented singers, actors, and dancers of First Pres. return us to the Broadway stage with a production of the multiple Tony Award-winning show *Guys and Dolls*. After running for 1,200 performances following its 1950 opening on Broadway, the fast-paced musical comedy is revived frequently and continues to captivate audiences and critics alike. Made famous by a 1955 movie adaption starring Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons, Frank Sinatra, and Vivian Blaine, the show includes such great number as "Luck Be a Lady," "The Oldest Established," and "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat."

All musicals at FPC. are produced with in-house talent and a topnotch creative team from the church that handles set design, props, costuming, choreography, and directing. Come experience the multitude of great talent within our community, from the live band of local musicians to the superb acting talents of many of our congregants.

Stump the Organist!

Join us Friday at noon on Facebook Live for Stump the Organist! FPC Principal Organist Alex Gilson will take your requests for sacred hymns and work his improvisatory magic. Tune in from the comfort of your home to test the knowledge and creative prowess of your organist.

Midweek Prayer

Join us on Facebook live for a brief time of prayer and scripture! Go to the church's Facebook page at noon on Wednesdays for community prayer. Post your prayer requests in chat during our time together, or watch the video devotional anytime.

Information from the Finance Committee

The church applied for and received \$50,000 from the federal government's Paycheck Protection Program on April 16, 2020. The program provides cash in the form of a forgivable loan. The loan will be forgiven (meaning no principal or interest will ever be repaid) if the church payroll is maintained at the same dollar amount during the next 2.5 months as it was in the preceding month or two. It is the church's intention to maintain payroll. Your pledges and offerings continue to be necessary to maintain our programming and staff during the pandemic and throughout the year.

Need a Mask?

Need a mask? The CDC recommends wearing a cloth mask for times when it is difficult to keep a six foot distance, such as grocery shopping. If you need a mask, please contact Pastor Katie.

Financial Update

	March 2020		March 2019	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	62,002	62,211	73,749	65,176
Custodial Accounts Income	15,246	-	6,667	-
Compensation Expenses	50,815	49,479	46,463	51,567
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	15,374	31,448	18,126	35,273
Custodial Accounts Expenses	15,246	-	6,667	-
Surplus (Deficit)	(4,187)	(18,716)	9,160	(21,664)
	2020 Year-To-Date		2019 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	322,399	322,608	285,969	266,010
Custodial Accounts Income	29,356	-	10,255	-
Compensation Expenses	150,850	149,514	143,538	148,643
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	45,521	61,595	60,529	77,675
Custodial Accounts Expenses	29,356	-	10,255	-
Surplus (Deficit)	126,028	111,499	81,902	39,692
All numbers are rounded.				

Kirkwood Choir

The Kirkwood Choir has been meeting on zoom these past couple of weeks during their regular rehearsal time. This will continue this coming Wednesday, May 6. The parents have done a great job of getting their kids signed in for our get togethers. In addition to teacher led musical activities, the singers are sharing their individual talents. Choir members are practicing giving specific positive feedback for our pianists, gymnasts, and visual artists. It is wonderful to see each other's faces and express ourselves through music and movement. We all look forward to being able to sing together once again!