

**My
sheep
listen
to
my
voice.**

**I
know
them
and
they
follow
me.**

John 10:27



First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 17, 2016

10:00 a.m.

**please stand in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

“A Shepherd's Medley”

Tate

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Katie Estes

CENTERING SILENCE

INTROIT

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Thomerson

Festival Choir

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Arise, people of God, to greet the one who calls us;

Come alive to the Spirit's energy among us.

God awakens us and restores our souls.

Surely God's goodness and mercy are with us here.

The shepherd is calling us to new ventures.

We are invited to a higher quality of life.

We will not fear to walk through shadowed valleys.

God's love in Christ is with us everywhere.

Come to drink from springs of living water.

Gather to find comfort and blessing here.

Surely God will guide our search for truth.

We seek eternal values within our daily journey.

*HYMN

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

Hymnal # 327

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Tom Watson

God of hope and comfort and safety, like sheep who go astray, we have wandered from your paths of love and light. We have heard the Shepherd's voice calling us by name, but we have turned instead to our own ways. Show us your tender mercy; restore us in the security of your fold. Lead us back to still waters, seat us again at your bounteous table. Fill us with your Spirit, that we might bear glad witness to your saving mercy, revealed to us in the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (responsive)

Surely goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives. God grants salvation for all eternity and claims us day by day.

Let us walk as children of light, who rejoice in the Shepherd's loving guidance, and show gratitude for springs of living water.

***RESPONSE**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
(v. 3)

Hymnal # 39

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Charlotte Hubbard

Grant that we may hear your voice speaking our names and claiming us as your own, O God of our salvation. Open our ears to hear the law and the prophets, and the good news of their fulfillment in Christ Jesus. Satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst, that we may hear your Word and bear witness to your truth. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 23

O.T. p. 501

ANTHEM

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

arr. Moore

*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, thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings over flows, thy oil anoints my head.
My Shepherd will supply my need, attend me all my days;
Oh, may thy 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.*

GOSPEL

John 10: 22-30

N.T. p. 104

SERMON

Believing and Belonging

Katie Estes

***HYMN**

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

Hymnal # 182

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEPTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

INVITATION TO SHARE

OFFERTORY

"The Lord is My Shepherd"

arr. Hustad

First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul. We are delighted that you have joined us to worship the Living God. **If you are a first time worship guest**, we extend a special welcome to you. Know that as our guest, you are invited to participate in any of the programs offered and we do not expect you to contribute when the offering is received. Today, your presence with us is your offering to God.

Photos and/or video may be taken during this worship service. FPC-SSP reserves the right to use said photos or video in church publications, including, but not limited to, bulletins, newsletters, the church website, and social media sites. If you prefer not to appear in these photos or video, please talk to one of the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please use the yellow request cards in the pews. Give the card to an usher before worship or during the first hymn so it can be included in our prayers of the people today and passed on to the prayer chain as well.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service. We also have professional childcare available for infants and children up to 5 years. The nursery is located at the top of the stairs in the upper level of the Education wing and is always available on those days your child may be restless. If you have an infant who begins to cry during the service, feel free to go into the library with your child and continue to hear the service on the speaker.

Please join us after the worship service for a time of fellowship in the Commons. Coffee, juice and treats are available for a minimal charge for members and at no cost for guests. Come and connect with old and new friends as we enjoy fellowship together.

On The Calendar

Today, April 17

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Jubilation Ringers
- 11:30 a.m. Kids Club Lunch & Craft
- 1:00 p.m. Community Garden Kickoff Meeting
- 1:15 p.m. Timber Hills

Monday, April 18

- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 19

- 7:00 p.m. Come As You Are

Wednesday, April 20

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 6:15 p.m. Bells of Praise
- 6:30 p.m. Drumming Circle
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 7:15 p.m. Festival Choir

Thursday, April 21

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Study

Friday, April 22

- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, April 23

- 8:30 a.m. Church-Wide Spring Clean-up

Sunday, April 24

Earth Day Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:15 a.m. Nominating
- 11:30 a.m. Jubilation Ringers

Next Sunday, April 24



Scripture: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Theme: Earth Day

Music: "In the Bulb There Is a Flower," Children

Adult Education: "Recycling" w/Jenny Kedward, Environmental Specialist, Dakota County

Announcements

Need a Gift? Consider Scrip! Spring always brings plenty of opportunities for gift-giving: Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations, and showers. A favorite gift for many is a gift card—do you know that we can order gift cards of almost any amount from almost any store (or restaurant or service) you might choose? We also have Gertens plant cards on-hand for your Spring planting needs. Our scrip program is an ongoing fundraiser for the church budget in which the church earns a percentage from each card sold. Stop by the table in the Commons this morning to make your Scrip purchase.

Kids Club: Craft, Lunch and Sing at Timber Hills today! At 11:30 we will gather in the Knox Room for crafts and then lunch. We will then head to Timber Hills in Inver Grove Heights and sing during the 1:15 pm worship service. We hope that all can make it!

Your help is needed with the Spring clean-up, this coming Saturday, April 23, 8:30 a.m. - Noon. Bring your cleaning supplies, rakes, spades, and/or work gloves. Coffee, juice and rolls from 8:00 to 8:30. We will start work at 8:30 and be done by noon. We will have both inside and outside jobs. You can stay for the whole morning or whatever time you can spare. Your time will be well appreciated by the Property Committee and the congregation. Many hands will make the work go quickly and be much more fun!

Our next trip to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan is this Tuesday, April 19, 8-9:30 p.m. Sign up on the kiosk!

Drum Circle Wednesdays! All current and former drummers, and anyone interested in trying drums, are invited to join us for a 5 week practice on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., and then to play on May 22 in worship. The circle is led by Jane Johnson, and Linda Kachelmeier will be with us for 3 of the practices in May! We will start up on April 20th and go until May 18th. Please let Jane know if you think you might be joining us for any of the "Drum Circle Wednesdays" so that she can plan to have enough drums.

Did you lose it? We may have found it! Our lost and found is overflowing with items left here at church. Take a moment before you leave to check the table and garment rack in the South Commons to see if anything belongs to you. Unclaimed items will be donated to Neighbors' thrift store at the end of the month.

Seeking Sunday Servers: Greeters, ushers, coffee servers and lectors are needed for upcoming worship services. These are some of the easiest and most rewarding ways to serve at FPC-SSP. This important ministry not only helps our Sunday services run smoothly, it is important for guests and visitors to be greeted with friendly volunteers each week. We need your help—singles, couples and families of all ages! Please sign up on the clipboards outside of the Library. No experience necessary and training is available.