

**McKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WORSHIP SERVICE**

4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

WE ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

"Lord is My Shephard"

**Faye D'Ippolito, Organist
Arr. Irvine**

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(L) We gather together this morning to worship and encounter Jesus Christ, the one who watches over us, leads us into abundant life, knows us by name

(C) Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd

(L) Jesus Christ, the one who bends to heal us, travels through the deepest valleys with us, and has given up everything for us

(C) Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd

(L) Jesus Christ, the one whose rod and staff comfort us, whose strength and love hold us

(C) Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd

(L) Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd,

(C) We are the Sheep of His pasture, gathered in God's love for God's world.

***HYMN #1**

"The Church's One Foundation"

No. 401, brown

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Gentle Shepherd,

You have given your life for us. You guide us and guard us along the narrow path to abundant life - but we confess that we have strayed from you, following, instead, the well-worn paths of self-preservation, instant gratification, self-medication.

You have called us to be one flock, to share life together under your love and care, but we allow judgment, fear, arrogance, ignorance to separate us and breed hate. We allow the "others" to be devoured by the wolves of this world.

Forgive us for not remembering that You are the GOOD Shepherd. Lead us back to loving You and loving our neighbors.

In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen

(pause for silent reflection)

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (Romans 8:34, 3:17)**

Sisters and Brothers,

Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Jesus Christ! Only Jesus Christ, The Good Shepherd - who came to us, who seeks us tirelessly. The Good Shepherd, who died for us and was raised for us. The Good Shepherd who sits at the right hand of God and intercedes for us that we might all be saved. Here the Good News, In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven!

(ALL) Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 813, brown

**Glory be the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

JOYS

Leader: "For (joy), Gracious God..."

All: "we give you thanks"

CONCERNS

Leader: "For (concern), Merciful Lord ..."

All: "hear our prayer."

Let's pray together the Lord's Prayer:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Please contact the church by email or phone with your prayer requests during the week.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Please welcome the children & youth to the front of the sanctuary.

ANTHEM "What Love is This"

**(Chancel Choir)
Arr. Kingsmore**

SCRIPTURE READING:

John 10:11-18

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay

down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

SERMON:

"So Much More Than a Healer"

Rev. Michael Stanton

THE RESPONSE

WE COMMIT TO THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY

"Nothing But The Blood of Jesus"

**Faye D'Ippolito, Organist
Arr. Lowry**

***DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN #2**

"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

No. 387, blue

THE EXIT

WE ENGAGE THE WORLD OF GOD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTUDE

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

**Faye D'Ippolito, Organist
Arr. Page**

**All those who are able, please stand"*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 21, 2024

FELLOWSHIP :

Please join together for friendship and fellowship after today's service.

IF YOUR ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE:

Please contact the church office.

RESILIENT FAMILY, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES:

MPC is excited to partner with Cecelia Ware and Infinite Lifestyle Solutions to offer neighborhood families an 8 week program designed to help restore & strengthen family and community relationships.

First Session will be this Thursday 6:00-8:00 pm. Dinner for the families is included.

Children and youth activities will be provided for (ages 3-5, 6-12, 13-18)

You are encouraged to come out and support this outreach effort.

MALAWI VISITATION:

The Malawi visitation is postponed from May to September. Please watch for further updates.

MCKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor-Rev. Michael Stanton

Director of Music-Edward R. Moore

Organists- Millie Kistler, Candice Holsinger, & Faye D'Ippolito

Office Assistant- Robin Enright

Maintenance Manager -Brock Cochran

412-678-2000

www.mckpres.com

mckeesportpresbyterian@gmail.com