

TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Easter

Live streamed at 11:00 a.m.



Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church
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A Church for all People

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

() Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

*Please join in speaking and singing the parts in **bold** or **unison**.*

Preparation for the Word

“The Shepherd never mentions the quality of sheep he demands. The Shepherd never holds auditions. The Shepherd never bases their protection and love and concern for their sheep on how the sheep look or feel or behave.”

-Nadia Bolz-Weber

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Let the Prelude's music open you to God's presence as we begin worship.

Prelude	Concerto for Two Violins	Johann Sebastian Bach
	Largo	Arr. James T. Bingham

Welcome

Opening Prayer (unison)

Beloved Shepherd, you gave your life in love, and in love you rose, calling your disciples to be your holy, risen body.

You call us to heal in your name and to love one another so much that we lay down our lives for one another.

You give yourself to us in soft, spring days, in starlit nights, in the whistles and hoots of courting birds, and the playful dance of two butterflies in the middle of a parking lot full of cars.

As your holy, living Spirit flows among and through us, make our fragile, earthen vessels overflow with praise and wonder. Amen.

Call to Worship

Responsively

from Psalm 23

Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

The Holy One leads us beside still waters and restores our soul.

Even though we walk through dark valleys, even though we are fearful and in need of comfort,

Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy; we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn 801 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want**

Prayer of Confession

Even when we cannot recognize ourselves, God calls us by name. Let us confess our deep need for the voice of our Creator and Shepherd calling us home.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment; the way we evaluate and compare, demean and degrade.

Redeem us. Restore us. Help us to be faithful as your flock.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing of God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

***Praise 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
(Worshippers on Zoom may unmute themselves and share the peace.)

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination 458

Thy word is a Lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2x)

First Scripture Reading

1 John 3: 16-18

Anthem Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

William Bradbury
Arr. Fred Bock

Time with the Children

Rev. Mark Harper

Second Scripture Reading

John 10:11-18

Sermon

Those Other Sheep

Rev. Mark Harper

***Hymn 243**

Be Not Afraid (sing 3x)

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People

Rev. John Seaman

*Prayers will be read from the Prayer Book and the "Chat box"
then the congregation will be invited to share their prayers.*

Response: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayers.**

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

O Holy Trinity of Love,
Holy are you and holy is your name.
May your shalom come and your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us our daily bread,
and forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Walk with us through times of trial and save us from evil.
For the Beloved Community, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

Mission spotlight

Mike Tidwell
from Chesapeake Climate Action Network

The Offering Invitation

The offering plate reminds us of the many contributions we all make to our church and God's realm. Please pass it to your neighbor and offer thanks for each other's gifts.

Offertory My Shepherd Will Supply My Need RESIGNATION
Arr. J. T. Bingham

***Doxology 609**

LASS UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost;
Alleluia! Alleulia! Alleulia! Alleulia!*

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accepts these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to the Beloved Community of Jesus. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

Announcements of the Community's Life

***Sending Hymn 238 Thine Is the Glory**

***Benediction**

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accepts these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to the Beloved Community of Jesus. Amen.

***Postlude Praise to the Lord OBE DEN HERREN**
Arr. John Carter

Community worship ends; discipleship and service begin anew.

Participants in this morning's service

Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor
Ferd Hoefner, Liturgist
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Choir
Dr. James Bingham, organist
Jay Clouse, Zoom Technician

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, **you are welcome here.** We are pleased you are with us today.

+**Please continually pray for peace** - - in our homes, in our lives, neighborhoods, in the nation and the world.

+**Thanks and appreciation** to Carolyn Seaman and Phil Boyer for providing Coffee Hour refreshments today.

Schedule for upcoming events

**** Zoom events**

Mon. Apr. 22, 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Tue. Apr. 19, 12.00 p.m. Virtual coffee hour**

Wed. Apr. 24, 8:15 p.m. Presbyterians for Police Transformation**

Sun. Apr. 28, 11: 00 a.m. Worship Service (*hybrid*)

+Thank you for your continued support of TPPC.

As a reminder, there are several ways to give to TPPC.

Information on giving, including giving on line, can be found at **<https://www.takomaparkpc.org/give>**.

Checks may be mailed to Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, 310 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. If you have questions, please contact **finance@takomaparkpc.org**.

+Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) is a movement of the Ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies. EAD is grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

EAD "summit" is **May 17-19.**

About our Church

+ **We welcome visitors to worship with us.** We pray that you will be blessed by your time with us this day. The gospel that we share and serve is a message of life and rebirth, love and reconciliation, hope and joy, peace and justice, and concern for the integrity of creation. If you are looking for a church home for your spiritual journey and service to God, we invite you to be our guest as often as possible as you discern if this is the faith community to which God is calling you.

+ **A Hearing System** is available for those who need it. See one of the greeters to get earphones.

+ **TPPC** welcomes **families** with infants and children to our worship services. The following are options for families:

A **Nursery** is available for **infants through 4** years old, 9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Teddy Bear Room on the lower level of the education building. (Our greeters/ushers will direct you there.)

Your infant or small child is welcome to stay with you in worship. If the child becomes uncomfortable and needs care during the service, feel free to leave the sanctuary. There is a changing table and rocking chair in the room next to the exit door on the left of the sanctuary.

Children are invited to come forward for the **“Time with Children”** and then pre-school and elementary age children are invited upstairs in the education building for Bible stories and related activities.

Books to share with your children are in the back of the sanctuary. Please do not leave your child unsupervised at the back of the sanctuary.

+ **In our worship**, we seek to use **inclusive language** in hymns, prayers and Scripture lessons. If you find gender specific words in

hymns or other text that cause you difficulty, please feel free to make appropriate substitutions.