

First Presbyterian Church

870 West College, Jacksonville, IL

Bringing Hope: Every Hour, Every Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

- **Look for the livestream video on our Facebook page** (www.facebook.com/firstpresjax/) The livestream will begin at 9:45am, and worship will begin at 10:00am.
- **Go to this link on our website** <http://firstpresjax.org/live/> We will do our best to have this available at 10am, but at the latest it will be posted by noon on Sunday.

PREPARING COMMUNION FOR THIS SUNDAY - We will share together virtual Communion in our online worship service. Before the time of the service you should prepare bread or a substitute like crackers and a cup or small cups of juice or a substitute like wine or water for you (and your family). Before worship on Sunday morning, set these elements where you experience worship electronically with our faith community. Additionally, you may want to put them on a special cloth or fabric, light a candle, and/or place a flower beside the bread and the cup. Thank you for your preparation.

~ WE APPROACH GOD IN PRAISE AND CONFESSION ~

RINGING OF THE HOUR

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING

"Shine On"

Roger Wainwright

Soloist: Maddy Albers

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 23, John 10

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd.

People: We are the sheep of Christ's pasture.

Leader: The shepherd makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: In Christ, we dwell secure.

Leader: The shepherd leads us beside still waters and restores our souls.

People: We worship Christ, our shepherd, our gate.

*HYMN #515

"I Come with Joy"

Dove of Peace

1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ, our shepherd and gate, we would rather chart our own course, than be shepherded like sheep; we would rather find our own way, than see you as the Way; we would rather be shepherds than sheep, who are vulnerable and exposed. Forgive us when we bleat our resistance, as you guide us to higher pastures. Be our gate, our way to safe havens, where we can dwell with you secure. Amen.

*SILENCE

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

Greatorex

Glory be to 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.

~ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son, so that we may live according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. ⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶Surely 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.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"How Great Thou Art"

Anthem Lights

Soloist: Maddy Albers

GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-18

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. 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. ¹⁸No 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.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

SERMON

“Abundant Life!”

Rev. Jonathan Warren

*THE APOSTLE’S CREED

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick 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.

*HYMN #187

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Bradbury

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

~ **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE** ~

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Edgewater”

Jim Brickman

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, touch us with the awe that came upon those early disciples, as they beheld the signs and wonders performed in their midst by the apostles. May the gifts we offer this day be a remembrance of their commitment to share all things in common. In Jesus' name, Amen.

~ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ~

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. In our many kitchens, and living rooms, we gather around the table today. These are not Presbyterian or Protestant tables. They are now our Lord's table. And Jesus' invitation is to all who trust in him, whatever our background, whatever our tradition, whatever burdens or blessings we carry today. We are all invited to share this feast that Christ has prepared.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that this meal may be a communion of the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The apostle Paul's letters serve as resources for "remote" worship. He sent these words of institution to the church in Corinth: *The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:23b-26).*

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

In our many places, as we receive these gifts of God, I invite you now to pick up your bread, and if there's more than one person worshipping together, to serve each other the elements. Let us now eat and drink together, the bread of life and the cup of salvation given for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~ THE SENDING ~

*HYMN #741

"Guide My Feet"

Guide My Feet

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;
guide my feet while I run this race;
guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

3 Stand by me while I run this race;
stand by me while I run this race;
stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

2 Hold my hand while I run this race;
hold my hand while I run this race;
hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

4 I'm your child while I run this race;
I'm your child while I run this race;
I'm your child while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

"Bless the Lord"

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

POSTLUDE VOLUNTARY

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Larry Shackley

~ TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS ~

Special Guest Musician: Maddy Albers

Director of Music & Organist: Christine Smith

Pastoral Assistant: John Nelson

Choir Director: Stephanie Soltermann

Sound Technician: Steve Holt

At our April session meeting, the session made the decision to continue our cancelation of in-person worship and activities and will revisit the decision on or before the May 20 session meeting.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Megan Clemmons, great-niece of Mable Simmons; **Heather Cole**, sister of Helen Cole Kuhn; **Lila Feary**, aunt of Alexa Crumley; **Larry Ladd**; **Michael Woods**, a colleague at Illinois College; **Nancy Bradbury**; **Rachel Flynn**, neighbor of the Ladd's; **Tim Olson**; **Darrel Hittner**, father of Lisa Wade; **Kevin Brodie**, friend of many at ISD; **Richard Mansell**; **Shirley Husa**; **Shelley Cochran**, friend of the Tiffany's; **Lee Spencer**, Clayton's father; **LaNise Kirk**; **Bertha Bucy**, Mike's mother; **Sue Linde**; **Earl Innes**, father of Joy Tiffany; **Linda Noble**, Barb Bucy's sister; **Lori Oldenettel**; **Judy Vieira**; **Wilma Walker**; **Ted and Linda Birdsell**; **Sam and Sue Scheets**; **Mona Cody**; **Karen Ladd**; **Mari and Cornell Kane**; **Ashley Wade**; **Nathan Price**, great-grandson to Evelyn Mason; **Billy Hollendonner**; **Jennifer Bible**; **Talisa Slade**, daughter of Wanda Cody, our custodian Paul's wife; **Bob Sibert**; **Sharon Belokas**; **Herb Hedstrom**, friends of Lynne Sheaff; **Cole and Mary Bowie Henry**; **John Roegge**; **John McCombs**, Shawn's father; **Adam and Maggie York and family** at the death of his father, Ron; **Bob Black and family** at the death of his sister, Barbara Lutz; **Dale Homolka and family** at the death of his father; **Heidi and Tyrone Shannon**, daughter and son-in-law of Debbie Lair.

UPCOMING SERVICES (Watch or listen by using the way listed above)

Sunday, May 10, 10:00 am – Mother's Day – special guests Valerie & Jay for Children's Time

Sunday, May 17, 10:00 am – Baccalaureate Sunday

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, MAY 17 - Do you have a child/grandchild graduating from high school or college at the end of this school year? We would like to recognize all graduates at our Baccalaureate worship service on May 17. The church family would like to join you in celebrating this exciting milestone in their lives. Please notify the church office at 245-4189.

SLIDE SHOW BEFORE WORSHIP –Between now and **SATURDAY** morning, please e-mail pictures of you and your mother or pictures of just her. Include names of everyone in the picture. Please send to: astare64@gmail.com or office@firstpresjax.org When sending, make sure your picture is: BIG - Keep your phone setting on "high quality", LANDSCAPE - Wider than it is tall...like a TV screen, JPG or PNG - Phone settings...you're probably fine, APPROVED - Make sure everyone in the picture is okay with sharing their picture. We will edit the pictures into a special Mother's Day slide show that will start at 9:45 am and run up until worship starts. We will do another slide show for Baccalaureate Sunday, so please send pictures of graduating seniors and label those clearly.

SURVEY RESULTS– <https://forms.gle/chS6eTfmcDnZmyWk6> - If you haven't completed the survey, please take the time do so. We want to make sure everyone is able to participate in worship and to see how else we can help our church family. Thank you so much to those that are willing to help others, but right now, no one needs assistance with food or medical supplies. We have 11 people that are now using a phone tree to check-in with one another, and 60% of congregants have someone in their household who are high risk. You and your families continue to be in mine and John Nelson's prayers. Please do not hesitate to call me on my cell (217) 418-3206 – Rev. Warren.

UPPER ROOMS AVAILABLE – If you would like a copy of the Upper Room please contact Dana in the office and plans can be made to meet you or she can mail you a copy.

MORE WAYS TO WORSHIP:

- **Listen to the sermons:** [Google Podcast](#) | [Apple Podcast](#) | [Spotify](#) (recorded and available later. Click the links or go to our website to listen www.firstpresjax.org)
- If you are still unable to worship with us with any of these options, please call the office at (217-245-4189) and we will send you a printed bulletin, sermon and/or CD.

SUNDAY VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR – Immediately following worship on Sunday, we invite everyone to share virtual coffee and donuts via zoom video conference. Join by clicking the link below and follow instructions to open meeting, or by calling the telephone number.

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us04web.zoom.us/j/288470660?pwd%3D3DFFzM2ErakVBSEdMamQ2aVM5aH-ZYUT09&sa=D&ust=1586202337093000&usg=AOvVaw3sEG2wsMOzUA-yHp4HBGtq>

Call 312-626-6799, enter meeting ID and Password below:

Meeting ID: 288 470 660 Password: 017724

EASTER MISSION CHALLENGE:

- **Support our Jacksonville Area Community Food Center** by donating food and medical supplies or giving funds (see below).
- **Spread Christ's hope** to neighbors, friends and others by: drawing/coloring with sidewalk chalk, sending hand-written notes, calling and praying this Easter season (until May 31).

DONATE FOOD, TOILETRIES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES - The City of Jacksonville/Morgan County has established a drop-off location for local residents to donate food, toiletries and medical supplies to aid in community COVID-19 response/ relief. Medical supplies will be pushed out to first responders and health care providers within Morgan County. Curbside service will be provided by the City of Jacksonville staff. Please stay in your car when you arrive. Collection will be reevaluated at the end of each week. **Location:** Jacksonville Area Community Food Center at 316 E. State Street, Jacksonville, IL 62650. Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Suggested food/toiletries include: Juice/Gatorade, Canned meats, fruits, beans, vegetables and soups, Ramen noodles, Peanut butter, Cake/brownie/muffin mixes, JELL-O or Pudding, Boxed potato and pasta sides, Breakfast foods (oatmeal, cereal, pancake mix and syrup), Crackers, Rice and beans, Flour and sugar, Sliced bread, Dry soup beans, Instant milk, Margarine, Sliced cheese, Toilet paper, Individual bar soap, Laundry soap.

Medical Supplies Include: Boxed, unused N95 masks, Boxed, unused surgical type masks (procedural masks), Wrapped or boxed vinyl gloves (no powder), Clean, unused gowns, Clean, handmade masks, Hand sanitizer, Bleach wipes, Alcohol wipes.

JOIN OUR NEW FACEBOOK GROUP - PRESBYTERIANS WITH PURPOSE: Sharing Christ's Hope in a Crisis During these times of uncertainty and questions, there is hope and comfort in sharing our joys and our disappointments; our blessings and our challenges; our faith and our fears ... together in fellowship with God's grace and mercy. This group page is for you ... and

any and all who want or need to connect with others during these times of challenges and questions. We will be sharing reflections and thoughts from several of our church family and friends in hopes that you find comfort in their words. We want this space to be a safe place to ask those questions, share experiences (both good and not-so-good), and find optimism in the reality and facts of this current crisis. This is not a place for political opinions but instead offers an opportunity for reflection and dialogue while facing these challenges. Please share this group with anyone you think might appreciate being included. And remember, we all have a purpose. Being part of a ministry that calls us to enhance our faith, especially in difficult times gives all of us a chance to be and see the light. Bringing Hope...Every Hour. Every Day. [CLICK HERE](https://www.facebook.com/groups/221761382271153/) to go to the Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/221761382271153/>). The Continuing Education Committee also is encouraging "Presbyterians with Purpose" members to continue our Easter Time Inspirations because Easter isn't over on April 12. Easter Season itself is 50 days long, ending on Pentecost, May 31. So, we are inviting all of our church family and friends to submit your own Easter time thoughts and reflections, which may include a scripture and/or prayer through this Facebook page. If you have any questions call Nancy Bork at 217-473-8112 or Marcy Jones at 217-370-3770.

GIVING TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN - Don't forget you can always give to support the mission and ministry of FPC, even if you are not physically in worship by mailing your check to First Presbyterian Church, 870 W. College Ave. Jacksonville, IL 62650, or by setting up "Bill Pay" with your financial institution (if account number is needed use 870-870-870).