

The 4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE "Climb Every Mountain" *Dr. Renee Huff*
by Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein II
© 1959 from The Sound of Music

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

INTROIT #187 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" *Choir*

WORDS OF PRAISE **Psalm 23** *Lucinda Cooke*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

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

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

**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.**

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

**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.**

***OPENING HYMN #267** "Come, Christians Join to Sing"

***OPENING PRAYER**

**God of all that is, gladly we live and move and have
our being in you. Yet always amid creation, we see
the shadow of alienation, and feel death's darkness.
Around us in the earth, sea and sky, the abuse of matter;
beside us in the broken, hungry and the poor; and often,
deep within us, a striving against your Spirit.
Help us to forgive one another, that you may forgive us.
Heal us, that we may be people of healing.
And renew us, that we may also be makers of peace.**

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

Hear the Good News! In Christ Jesus, we have a shepherd to watch over us and lead us to the waters of life in his name.

In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.)

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #582 "Amen"**

By Jester Hairston © 1966 Schumann Music Co.

SCRIPTURE READING John 20:19-31

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM "Somebody Bigger Than You and I"

SERMON "Faith" Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #829 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that God creates all things, renews all things,
and celebrates all things.**

**We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled
with God's presence.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood, a human being
in Jesus Christ, who lived, breathed, and walked among us.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ of all creation,
reconciling all things to God.**

**We believe that with Christ, empowered by the Spirit, we
will celebrate a new creation, where all will be made whole.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal P. 35*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "I Believe"

by Ervin Drake, Irvin Graham, Jimmy Shirl, and Al Stillman
© 1953 Cromwell Music, Inc.

***DOXOLOGY #606 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

*CLOSING HYMN #269 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

*BLESSING & SENDING

May the blessing of God's light be upon us;

light without and light within.

May the blessing of the rain be upon us.

May it be upon our spirits and wash them fair and clean.

May the blessing of the earth be on us;

soft under our feet, as we pass along the roads.

And may the Lord bless us, and bless us kindly.

Alleluia! Amen.

*POSTLUDE #156 "In the Garden"

By C. Austin Miles © 1940 The Rodeheaver Co.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY! Please come to our weekly Bible discussion class on Tuesday, April 23 at 10:00am in the library. Pastor Jeff will lead the discussion. Coffee and refreshments will be served. All are welcome. We hope you can join us!

CHURCH COVERED DISH LUNCH & TOWN HALL GATHERING

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 You're invited! Please join us for a covered dish lunch & Town Hall gathering on Sunday, April 28 at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Roxbury stew and drinks will be provided. The congregation are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and/or desserts. Please RSVP to the church office at stauntonfirst@gmail.com or 540-886-0704.

WSO CONCERT Please join us for a full orchestral concert presented by the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra this Saturday, April 27 at 7:00pm in our sanctuary.

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Judy; Bret Ritchie; Mona Tate; Sherry Cox's sister Tommie Sue Schindler; Paul Goble; Jim Cooke; Charlie Obaugh; Sherry von Oeyen; Justin Tate; David Klein (brother-in law of Scott & Sharon Wilson)

Please contact Heidi in the church office or Pastor Jeff to have names added or removed from the prayer list.

Names will be removed after 6 weeks unless otherwise requested.

Elders

Class of 2024

Sam Clem, Discipleship, Congregational Life
Mary Meade, Worship
Barbara Richardson, Congregational Life

Class of 2025

Stephany Morgan, Administration, Missions & Outreach
Bret Ritchie, Administration
Hugh Sproul, Property

Class of 2026

Susie Lendermon, Missions & Outreach
Martha Tillen, Worship

Clerk

Martha Tillen

Staff

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor
Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager

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