



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

April 21, 2021

Worship
Join us weekly on
our website:
Firstprescf.org

This Weekend's Worship – 4th Sunday of Easter
Sermon: "Easter People: A Community of Abundance"
Scripture: John 10:11-18

Prayer of Preparation

Holy One, you come to us with power beyond all knowing.
You lift all things out of the dust, you breathe love into every cell,
you call us into communion with you, and you claim victory over death.
Blessed be your holy name now and forever. Amen.

Pastor's Ponderings – Shepherding Love

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me..." John 10:14
In our reading for this Sunday, we will encounter and ponder Jesus as the good shepherd. For many of us, Christ as shepherd is a comforting thought and rightfully so. Through it we can picture the intimate and compassionate relationship God seeks with us, even as we feel we don't deserve it. We find solace knowing that we are not alone. It is the resurrection joy that we speak of in Eastertide.

Roger Gench, theologian in residence at Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia digs deeper into this metaphor as he reflects on the Good Shepherd's attendance to our wounds, and, therefore our call to attend to those around us. He says, "The real power of resurrection is attending to wounds, with a readiness to hold pain and to stay with difficult truths about the wounds that remain in our own lives and in our world. Attending to such wounds, like tending and feeding Jesus' sheep, is a deeply relational, covenantal practice, that creates spaces in which liberation and new life can emerge. As your wounds connect to my wounds – and your suffering to my suffering – a communal, covenantal life can emerge in which we talk with one another through dark valleys and gather together at a table prepared for us even in the midst of all that threatens us. The Good Shepherd is leading the way."

Easter people, as we look to our Good Shepherd, may our words and actions reflect the love and compassion that is our resurrection joy. May our steps on this journey guide others to the table prepared for all of us where we meet to be fed and led to attend to one another with shepherding love.

Your fellow traveler,

Pastor Julie

Church Birthdays
Apr. 23-Nancy Hoppe,
24-Vi Polk, 28-Gabbie
Lee, Gracie Lee

For your prayers...
Vera Brunskill
Patti Humpal's cousin,
Bruce & 'Pete' McCart

Zoom Meetings
Wed., April 21
11:00 am Working for
Justice: Breaking Bias
6:15 pm Elementary
aged SHINE
Sunday, April 18
11:00 am (link below)
[Fellowship Hour.](#)
2:00-4:00 pm
Session/Deacon Retreat
Tuesday, April 27
2:30 Safe Ministry Team
6:30 pm 'Caste' Book
Study Group
Wed., April 28
11:00 am Working for
Justice: Breaking Bias
6:15 pm Jr. High aged
SHINE

In Person Meeting
Wednesday, April 21
5:30 pm PW Coordinating
Team, dining
room

Thanks for serving last week:

Preacher: Rev. 'Pete' McCart

Worship Leader: Kay Leeper

Pianist: Connie Herbon

Vocals: Beth Culberson

Lawn mowing: Jim Seeley

NOTE: Lynette will be out of the office next week on vacation. Please call before stopping by.

Vacation Bible School Survey

Families: The CYF Ministry team is planning VBS, and we want it to be meaningful for all who can attend. Please take this very brief survey by April 23rd to help us create the best experience possible. Thanks!

<https://forms.gle/XcnGXrZ4S5sw1nXY8>

The Lectionary Study will resume on Monday, May 3.

New Book Group Opportunity!

Jill and Mark Mortenson will facilitate new book study group reading "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent," for seven weeks via Zoom on Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. beginning April 27. Anyone may participate. Contact the office to participate.

Weekly Lawn Mowing Volunteers

Sign up slots to mow the church lawn are as of the beginning of the week on Sundays. You can mow anytime that week. Please use the link below to log in to "Sign Up Genius" and pick a slot. You do not need an account. Two self-propelled lawnmowers are available.

You will receive an email reminder 2 days prior.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-lawn>

- Click on the week you wish to mow
- Then click 'submit and sign up' at the bottom
- Fill out your name & email, then click 'sign up now.'

Sundays - Fellowship Hour

Join us on Sundays at 11:00 am.

Topic: Fellowship Hour

[https://zoom.us/j/97475746240?](https://zoom.us/j/97475746240?pwd=RXlwT1FncXhuMTk4MlZ3OGc4NEdDUT09)

[pwd=RXlwT1FncXhuMTk4MlZ3OGc4NEdDUT09](https://zoom.us/j/97475746240?pwd=RXlwT1FncXhuMTk4MlZ3OGc4NEdDUT09)

Meeting ID: 974 7574 6240

Passcode: 504524

To Phone In: 1-312-626-6799

Your Turn to Shepherd

As we joyfully look toward once again worshipping in person in our sanctuary, many people have been working behind the scenes to make sure we can do so safely. Now there is an opportunity for more of us to participate in making this longed for outcome a reality. We cannot open in-person services until we have 5 "shepherds" per service to guide worshipers through the protocol that will keep everyone safe on those joyous days we gather together. If you have are willing to serve in this way, watch for a link to our Sign-Up Genius online form coming soon.

Sympathy to the family of Marney Wasserman, who passed away on April 19. Marney and Dave Wasserman were assistant/associate pastors here from 1975-1980.

SHHHH.....It's a secret!!!

Marge King will be celebrating her 95th birthday on Tuesday, May 4. Her family is inviting the congregation to participate in a surprise card shower. You may send cards to her at: 1815 Olive, Cedar Falls IA 50613.



Presby Spottings

The Katowski Greenbelt was the place to be for several Presbyterians on Sunday. Among those spotted, pictured above are (l-r) Kirk & Sue Eastman, Tom & Jeverna Mulligan, Jean Boller, Margaret Clark, Jeverna, and Zeppelin (who brought Jean out for a walk.)

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the cards and calls of support over the past year. It has been a challenge! Due to ongoing health challenges my ability to use certain knitting items and yarn weights is really impossible. I want to find homes for these items where they will be used and loved. Please contact the office. I will be happy to deliver to your home, or to the church for pick-up.

Jenny Allen