

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd  
lays down his life for the sheep.”

*John 10:11*



## **Abington Presbyterian Church**

April 25, 2021

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter   April 25, 2021**

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

*A time for quiet preparation before worship*

O Shepherd of all who put their trust in you, restore our souls in this time, for we are tired and needy. Lead us by still waters, on paths of righteousness. Comfort us in death's dark valley and take away our fears. Feed us and anoint us with your goodness and mercy so we will be confident in your continuing presence. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

Pastorale

*Cesar Franck*

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather recognizing the presence of our God:

**where we who have experienced loss have our tears wiped away.**

We gather as beloved children of God:

**to worship the One who provides what we need, not always what we want.**

We gather around the Table of God:

**to taste the goodness of God, to drink deeply from God's mercy.**

**\* HYMN 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy Comforter, we confess the emptiness of our souls which sends us searching for all those things which cannot nourish us. Our restless longing for the goods of the world fills us with lust and envy. Our trust in the hollow promises of our culture turns us away from the shelter you offer to us. Forgive us, Shepherding God. Call us back from our wayward lives, so we may find rest in the stillness of your gentle heart, find healing from your gentle, powerful hands, find that life for which we yearn, together in you and through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God walks with us every moment, God fills us with goodness and mercy, God brings us home to live forever.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**\* HYMN OF PRAISE**

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Hymn 239, v.1&3

**1 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!**

**Now is the triumph of our King!**

**To all the world glad news we bring:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing today with one accord**

**the life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\* THE PEACE OF CHRIST**                      *Greet one another with the sign of peace.*  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **WORD**

*God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

## **PSALM 23**

*Hymn 473*

Capo 1: (Em)                      (C)                      (G)                      (D)

Refrain      Fm                      D<sup>b</sup>                      A<sup>b</sup>                      E<sup>b</sup>

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
**He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**  
(Refrain)

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil,  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**  
(Refrain)

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
thou anointest 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 forever.**  
(Refrain)

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:11-18

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Shepherd Qualities

*The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' 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 Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on 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 Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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**

**THANKSGIVING & SENDING**

*After the proclamation of God's Word, we respond with gratitude prepared to go  
into the world where we are called to live according to God's will.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

\*HYMN 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

\*BENEDICTION

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*Hymn 542, verse 1*

**God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Sheep May Safely Graze

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*[service hymns and some announcements follow]*

**Worship Leaders:**

**Preacher:** The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

**Liturgists:** The Rev. Aaron Twitchell, Janet Gildner (9:00), Ahrin Gibbons (11:00)

**Children's Message:** Ruth Sall

**Organist:** Erik Meyer

**Choir:** : (9:00) Alan Keiter and Lauren Keiter

**Ushers today are:** Doug Callentine and Allen Tsung

**Permissions:** "Pastorale" by Cesar Franck. Public domain.

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" words by Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923. Text © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company. Printed and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved. Music (FAITHFULNESS) by William Marion Runyan, 1923. Public domain.

"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" words by Cyril A. Alington, 1931, alt. Text © 1958, ren. 1986 Hymns Ancient & Modern (admin. Hope Publishing Company). Printed and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved. Music (GELOBT SEI GOTT) by Melchior Vulpius, 1609; harm. Pilgrim Hymnal, 1958. Public domain.

"Shepherd Me, O God (Psalm 23)" words and music (SHEPHERD ME) by Marty Haugen, 1986. Refrain text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Printed and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved. Responsive Reading © 1952, rev. 1971 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission for worship.

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (Psalm 23)" words by Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. Public domain. Music (RESIGNATION) U.S.A. folk melody; Lewis's Beauties of Harmony, 1828; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986. Harmonization © 1990 Dale Grotenhuis. Printed and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved.

"Sheep May Safely Graze" music by Johann Sebastian Bach arr. by E. Power Biggs. ©H.W.Gray (Belwin-Mills). Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved.

**In need of special prayers this week:** Len Browna, Michael Kemp, Laura Lockhart, Sylvia Weed (mother of Kathryn Jablokow), Barbara LaNore (sister of Lynda Smyth), Sylvia Jolly, MM Harris, Herb Harris, Gary Lynch (son of Doug Lynch), Chris Popescu (aunt of Joanne Bates), Marty Bell (cousin of Alice Price), Elizabeth Cole (granddaughter of Nancy Webb Cole), Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Janet Wells (mother of Gwen Bihn), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Phyllis Frazier, Nick Cupo, Sr., Joanne Hawkins (mother of Nick Cupo), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Kris and Erik Reidenbach (friends of Sally Adams), David Fryer (husband of Rabbi Shoshana Tornberg, friend of APC), Meredith Ellisor, (cousin of Craig Nicholson), Mark Meissner (son of Judy Meissner), Nina DiTimasso and Audrina Rose (friends of Anne-Marie Constable), Barb Kelly.

**For Pastoral Care:** To notify the church of an illness, hospitalization, death, or to request prayer, contact a minister or call your Deacon or the Church Office at (215) 887-4530.

# 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주



Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며



All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

# My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)

1 My shep-herd will sup - ply my need; Je - ho - vah is his name.  
 2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;  
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

In pas - tures fresh he makes me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.  
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.  
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

He brings my wan - dering spir - it back when I for - sake his ways,  
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;  
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;

and leads me, for his mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows; your oil a - noints my head.  
 no more a strang - er, or a guest, but like a child at home.

The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.