

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *How Can I Keep From Singing* – Tom
Fettke

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Wonderful Words of Life* – Tracey Craig
McKibben

Introit #413: *Come into God's Presence* Chancel Choir

Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day (Psalm 23)

The Lord is our shepherd;

we lack nothing.

Though we may walk through the darkest valley,

we fear no evil; for God is with us.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our
lives,

and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Let us worship God! Let us pray:

Prayer of the Day

**Merciful God, you have told us who you are, and we
still struggle to believe. In Jesus Christ, you reveal
your unending care for us, and we give thanks.
Grant us the vision of the world you see, a world
without hunger, thirst, or tears. Lead us into the
future you are preparing, O God, as we follow with
grateful hearts. Amen.**

Opening Hymn #386 *Come Worship God*, verses 1, 3 and 4
(stand)

Call to Confession

Even if we walk in the darkest of valleys,
we have nothing to fear, for God is with us.

Let us stand before the throne of the Lamb with confidence,
trusting in God's desire to redeem and restore us.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, in the presence of our enemies, we divide and demonize. When you face our enemies, you choose neither contempt nor punishment, but set a table and make provision for us all. Our ways are not your ways, O Creator, and they are an affront to the work of your hands. Have mercy on us, O God, and heal us. Send our risen Lord among us again to repair relationships and restore humanity. Set us free to share the love of Christ Jesus just as he does at his table.

Declaration of Pardon

Hear the sound of your Shepherd's voice: Jesus says, I give you eternal life. You will never perish. No one can snatch you out of my hand. Believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, nurtured, and safe.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #583:

Anthem: *Psalm 23* Srul Irving Glick

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all of those in need.

You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as a sign of your love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, who taught us to pray.

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

Hymn #274 *You Lord are Both Lamb and Shepherd* v. 1,3,4
(seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, like a shepherd lead us. That in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

First Lesson: Acts 9:36 - 43

Second Lesson: Revelation 7: 9 – 17

Gospel Lesson: John 10:22-30

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Sheep, Not Wolves or Goats* Jonathan Kimball

Affirmation of Faith: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

It was always your will that Israel should find, in Jesus Christ, the one who would bring them home, lost sheep returning to the Shepherd who is their King. And to that fold would come others, from every nation upon earth, as prophets had foretold, including those gathered here today to honor your name. Gracious God, we praise you for the promise of Scripture, the depth of your love and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #711: *Lord of All Good* v. 1 and 2

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

We bring you only what is yours, Creator God, that you might use this offering and the giver for the building up of your kingdom and the glory of your name. Amen.

Sending Hymn #187: *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

(stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* – William
Moore

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