

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

April 25, 2021

PRELUDE

“St. Anne”

Miles

WELCOME & COMMUNITY SHARING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Because the Lord takes care of me, I have all I need.

God gives me rest in places of peace and plenty.

God restores my soul, and leads me in right paths.

Though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

You are with me; you protect and comfort me.

You nourish me, and fill me with good things.

God's goodness and mercy shall surround me all my days,

And I will live in God's presence always.

HYMN

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”
(verses 1, 2 & 4)

No. 123

1 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God's deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. This is the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the goods of the world and sees a brother or sister in need, yet refuses to help? With love for God and neighbor, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

The Offering plate is in the Narthex. You may also choose to mail your offering to the church office, or give online through our website, cazpres.org.

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

HYMN “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” No. 172

1 My Shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is His Name:
In pastures fresh He makes me feed,
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
When I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy’s sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

2 When I walk through the shades of death
Thy presence is my stay;
One word of Your supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
Does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows,
Your oil anoints my head.

3 The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days;
O may Your house be my abode,
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come;
No more a stranger, or a guest,
But like a child at home.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord God, good shepherd, by the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT: First John 3:16-24

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us— and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister^a in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 4:5-20

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John,^[a] and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ When they had made the prisoners^[b] stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,^[c] whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹ This Jesus^[d] is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’^[e]

¹² There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. ¹⁴ When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵ So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. ¹⁶ They said, "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. ¹⁷ But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." ¹⁸ So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of

Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; ²⁰ for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard."

SERMON "What We Have Seen and Heard"

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" No. 210
(verses 1, 2, 4 & 5)

1 Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

2 Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

4 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

5 Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Darwall's 148th" Hopson

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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

We are delighted to have you join us in worship today!

You will find First Presbyterian Church to be a welcoming, inclusive and affirming community of faith.

If you are a guest with us this morning, please take a moment to fill out one of the Guest Information Cards can be obtained from and usher. If you have any questions about this church, its history or its mission, please feel free to ask one of our greeters, ushers, members, or pastor.

Please be mindful of others in the congregation who wish to be in silent meditation upon entering the sanctuary.

Please silence all cell phones.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE

Please see an usher for assistance

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Liturgist: Diana Markowitz

Ushers: Shelly Brooks

April Flower Arrangement: Kris Curtis

CHURCH OFFICE (315) 655 – 3191

Office@cazpres.org

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 3pm

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