

Worshiping God at
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2023



Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Teddie McConnell

Prelude

Seung-mee Oh

Opening Prayer

Pastor Teddie

Good and loving Shepherd, you call us by name. Lead us, by your Word, in paths of righteousness, that we may have life, and have it abundantly; through Jesus Christ, the gateway to salvation. **Amen.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Claudette Hamilton

L: Our Good Shepherd calls.

P: He knows us each by our name.

L: Our Good Shepherd leads.

P: We are here to listen and to follow.

L: Our Good Shepherd protects and provides.

P: We give thanks and praise for our Good Shepherd.

Service parts in bold: Everyone speaks in unison.
Parts with an asterisk: * Please stand in body or in spirit.

* Hymn #246

Christ is Alive!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

* *Passing of the Peace*

Pastor Teddie

Let us share the peace of God with each other, as we greet one another in the name of Christ.

Call to Confession

Claudette

Let us confess all that distracts and distorts God's truth, so we can know grace and forgiveness through Christ.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Claudette

Savior God, you beckon us, but we do not heed your call. You gather us, but we wander away losing ourselves in false and superficial comforts. You speak truth, but we fail to hear and respond. Good Shepherd, do not give up on us. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.

Please take time now for your own silent prayers. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Teddie

Even when we walk through the darkest valley, God is with us. God does not abandon us. Know that you are forgiven and receive Christ's peace. Alleluia. **Amen.**

* Gloria Patri

Anthem

Every Morning is Easter Morning

Chancel Choir/ Congregation

(By Richard Avery and Donald Marsh)

(Refrain): Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Goodbye guilt, good-bye fear, good riddance! Hello, Lord, hello sun!
I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun. (Refrain).

Daily news is so bad it seems the Good News seldom gets heard.
Get it straight from the Easter People! God's in charge spread the word! (Refrain).

Yesterday I was bored and lonely; but today look and see!
I belong to the Easter People! Life's exciting to me!

Ev'ry morning is Easter Morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning, ev'ry morning is Easter morning ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Call for the Offering

Pastor Teddie

Our God provides for us as a shepherd provides for his sheep. Let us return a portion of all we have been given in gratitude for our God's generosity.

Offering/ Offertory

Seung-mee

* Doxology

** Prayer of Dedication (unison)*

Pastor Teddie

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give you in return. You meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as tokens of our gratitude and bless Christ's ministry with these offerings. Amen.

** Affirmation of Faith (unison) (Apostles' Creed)*

Pastor Teddie

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.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns / Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer

Greg Lee

Musical Reflection

Seung-mee Oh

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Claudette

Savior God, we are in awe of you and the way you guide us to the greater good. You've gifted us with the Holy Spirit as our advocate and guide. Open us to the Spirit's wisdom and truth. Open our ears, minds and hearts to your Word read and proclaimed today. May we know your truth and respond in faith. Amen.

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

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

⁴ 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.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

* Hymn #233

The Day of Resurrection!

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad, the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light, and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin; the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein. Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Pastor Teddie

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Alleluia! **Amen.**

Sung Benediction

All

May the Lord, mighty God,
bless and keep you forever;
grant you peace, perfect peace,
courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see God's face,
full of grace forever;
may the Lord, mighty God,
bless and keep you forever.

Fellowship Time

Come! Join us in the Fellowship Room for refreshments, snacks, and conversation following the worship service.