



## Shine God's Light

As disciples of Christ, we share and rejoice  
in the warmth of God's love and light by  
**teaching** the holy word,  
**servicing** Christ's community, and  
**growing** together in faith.



April 21, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

# The Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

9:30 am

Prelude

*O God, You Are My God*

David Strasser

FPC Band

*From the Rising of the Sun*

Anon.

Amanda Ruppel, vocal

Call to Worship

One: Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

**All: He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.**

One: Even though we walk through dark valleys, even though we are fearful and in need of comfort,

**All: Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy; we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long. Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn

*Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord*

No. 628

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others feel as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment; the way we evaluate and compare, demean and degrade. Redeem us. Restore us. Help us be faithful as your flock, Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Christ forgives. Christ transforms.

**All: Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings.**

One: We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

*(Please check first with those you approach)*

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Faith in Action

Tanya Cleary

Children's Message

Jennifer Miller

*Children's offering will be collected as they come forward for the message.*

*After the message, children and youth may depart for Sunday School or return to their pew.*

Prayer for Illumination

Ceil Hopkins

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12 (page 887)

Solo

*Here Am I*

Nolan Williams, Jr.

God has no hands, but those that strive to mend the broken hearts of wounded kin. God has no feet, but those that stride to win another soul to enter in! Here am I, Lord, send me, I'll heed your voice, obey your will. I will gladly do your bid! God has no eyes, but those alert to see someone distressed, some soul in need. God has no voice, unless we yield to be a vessel willed to boldly sing! God's call is now for us to build and keep the living Church. Christ's Bride to be, so we must work the work and sow the seeds and trust God's promises to reap!

Gospel Reading

I John 3:16-24 (page 991)

Sermon

*Love in Truth and Action*

Rev. Amy Lincoln

\*Affirmation of Faith

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory solo

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury; your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light and where there's sadness, ever joy. O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled, as to console, to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love, with all my soul. Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

\*Doxology

No. 607

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow: praise Christ all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

**Generous God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to Christ's ministry. 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.**

\*Hymn

*Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

No. 703

\*Charge and Benediction

Response

*Love the Lord Your God*

Jean and Jim Strathdee

Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Love the Lord your God with all your soul.

Love the Lord your God with all your mind. Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

Postlude

*We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

Kirk Dearman

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FPC Band

Amanda Ruppel, vocal    Dave Shearer, acoustic guitar

Ben Cahill, bass guitar    Eric Ruppel, drums

Margaret Sheneman, director and piano

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln, Pastor

J. Jay Smith, Director of Music/Organist

Cindy Hall, Office Manager

Margaret Sheneman, Director of Handbells

Jennifer Miller, Youth Coordinator

Marion Barry, Sexton

Anne Philip, audio/video engineer

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