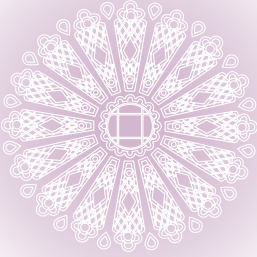


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 21, 2024

11:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
BAPTISM SUNDAY  
FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY



## WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.*

VOLUNTARY: Allegro Cantabile from Symphony no. V

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

*John Alexander, organ*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Jill Duffield

\* CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Newton Cowan

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd."

**All: Christ lays down his life for his sheep.**

Leader: The Lamb of God will guide us to the water of life.

**All: We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 396 – Brethren, We Have Met to Worship ..... HOLY MANNA



\* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*A brief period of silence is observed for personal confession.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* THE PEACE

**Leader:** Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

\* RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBIA

And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness  
fail - eth<sup>3</sup> ne - ver; Good Shep - herd, may I  
sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - e - ver.

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD READ: *Psalm 23* ..... Taylor Stroud

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint 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 my whole life long.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR LOUISE MALAY MILLER AND JOSEPH ELIJAH SIERNOS

Jill Duffield and Newton Cowan

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

PRAYER OVER THE BAPTIZED

ANTHEM: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need ..... arranged by Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

*Chancel Choir*

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his Name;  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wand'ring spirit back, when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;  
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.  
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise!  
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,  
No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at home.

*— paraphrase of Psalm 23*

THE WORD READ: *Acts 4:5-12*

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 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, 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, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Filled with the Holy Spirit* .....Jill Duffield

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 834 – Precious Lord, Take My Hand .....PRECIOUS LORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ..... Caroline Phillips  
*concluding with 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.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.*

OFFERTORY: Come, Believers in the Gospel ..... John D. Horman  
*Chancel Choir*

Come, believers in the Gospel, share the good news we have heard:  
God in Jesus Christ is with us! How amazing, how absurd  
that such Love should dwell among us, conquer death, and live today,  
offering humankind salvation, making known the Truth, the Way!

Holy people, God still calls us, like the saints of long ago,  
to be one in faith and purpose as we worship, learn, and grow.  
Be forgiven and forgiving, with your neighbors reconciled;  
And in love, befriend the stranger, be God's grace to every child.

Children, pour the living water, consecrate the bread and wine,  
bring a towel and humble basin, human symbols, yet divine.  
Tell the ancient Gospel story of a cross and empty grave;  
sing of Resurrection's glory to the world Christ came to save.

Heirs, with Christ, of truth and promise, People of the Book and Way,  
God has gifted us with wisdom from the past to use this day.  
Let the scriptures guide your thinking, and tradition shape your will,  
That you may discern God's purpose and your mission thus fulfill.

Members of Christ's new creation, Love's great laws bind us as one,  
calling us to righteous living, showing us the wrong we've done.  
Live, repentant and forgiven, in obedience to the Way,  
seeking justice for your neighbors, offering hope for life today.

*– text: Mary Nelson Keithahn*



\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise  
God, all creatures here below; Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
lu-ia! Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise  
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Caroline Phillips

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION .....Jill Duffield

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 541 – God Be with You Till We Meet Again.....RANDOLPH

VOLUNTARY: Praeludium in D.....Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)  
*John Alexander, organ*



## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Jill Duffield, *Senior Pastor*

Newton Cowan, *Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care*

Caroline Phillips, *Pastoral Care*

Lauren Martin, *FPC Elder*

Taylor Stroud, *Lay Reader*

Charlotte Freeze, *Acolyte*

John Alexander, *Director of Music and Principal Organist*

Robert Wells, *Director of Chancel Choir*

*Chancel Choir*

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” Text: George Atkins; Music: *Columbian Harmony*.

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” Text: Henry William Baker; Music: Irish melody.

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” Text: Thomas A. Dorsey; Music: George N. Allen.

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*.

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again” Text: Jeremiah Eames Rankin; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams.

\* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.  
We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship  
is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

We seek to be God's changemakers for good in the world.  
FPC is a Matthew 25 church, and our creation care and hunger  
ministries have been recognized by the Presbyterian Church USA.



**TAKING ATTENDANCE:** The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone,

you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.




**NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED** for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

#### WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL

**EMERGENCIES:** If during the service you or someone who is with you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency; or if you notice someone else having a medical event; please contact the closest usher, who can assist in the situation.

**FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE** – Honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning Sanctuary worship service. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. *Dates available: September 1, 8, and 29.* Contact Carolyn Yow, [cwow@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:cwow@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336-478-4768.



#### FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA –

Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on **Facebook**  (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), **YouTube**  ("fpcgreensboro") and **Instagram**  ("1stpresgso") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered today during the 11 a.m. Sanctuary service to Louise Malay Miller, daughter of Danielle and Crawford Miller; and to Joseph Elijah Siernos, son of Amber and Mike Siernos.

**THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE*** seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

**ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS:** The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia Reid Shelton and John Carroll Shelton by their children, Nancy Shelton Brown and John Carroll Shelton, Jr.

**WAYS TO GIVE:** In addition to the in-person offering, you may also give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code (*right*) to give online. You can also go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text](https://fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text) to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple  or Android ) and for instructions for giving via text. You may also mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give](https://fpcgreensboro.org/give) for more ways to give.

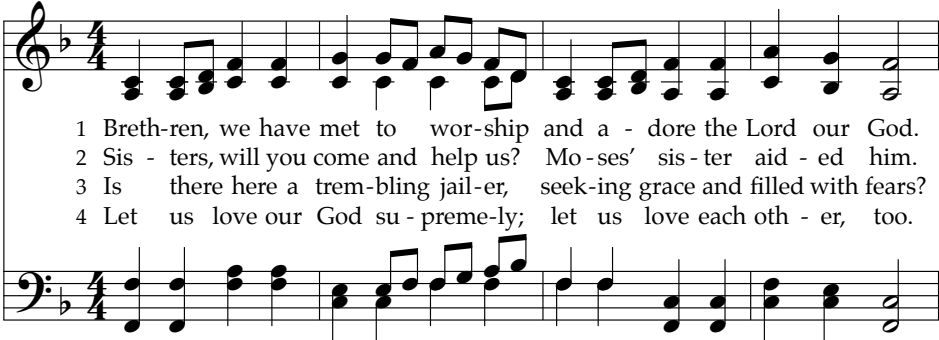


**USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED:** Contact Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4711.

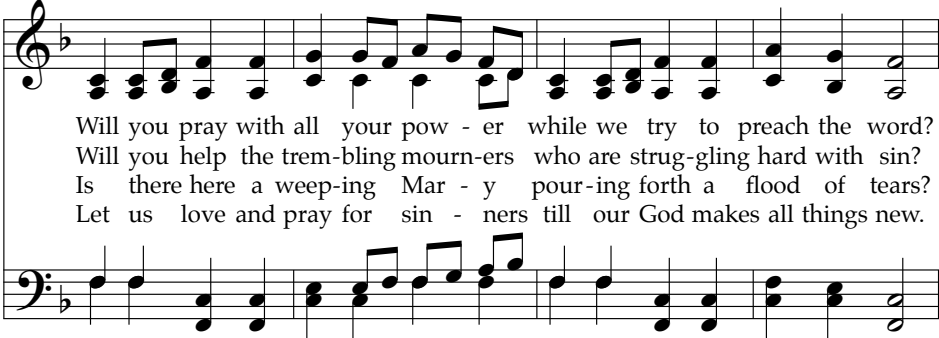
**PARKING MINISTRY:** This ministry helps members with mobility issues get from their cars to the sanctuary for the 11 am service on Sundays. Two volunteers work on Greene Street 10:15-11:15 am. Passengers may be dropped off at the Greene Street door and will be escorted into the sanctuary. Drivers will be directed to a reserved space as needed. *Want to help?* Choose a Sunday at [fpcgreensboro.org/signup](https://fpcgreensboro.org/signup). Info: Tim Millisor, [tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4793; or Nancy Courts, [nancy\\_courts@uncg.edu](mailto:nancy_courts@uncg.edu) or 336.273.1617.



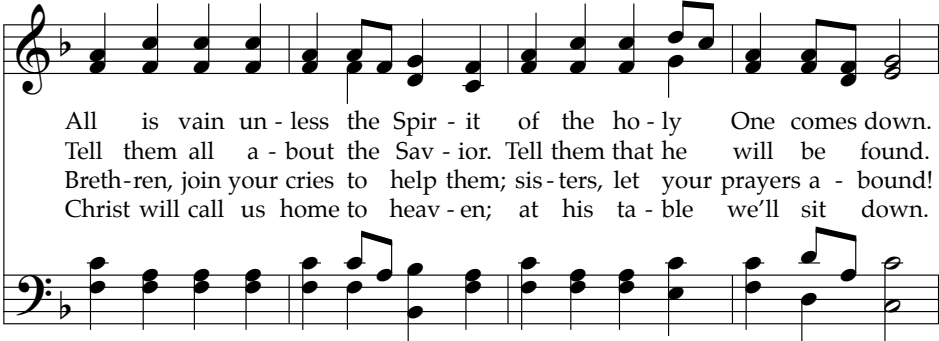
# Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 396




1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a - dore the Lord our God.  
2 Sis - ters, will you come and help us? Mo-ses' sis-ter aid - ed him.  
3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?  
4 Let us love our God su - preme-ly; let us love each oth - er, too.



Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word?  
Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?  
Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?  
Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the ho - ly One comes down.  
Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior. Tell them that he will be found.  
Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis - ters, let your prayers a - bound!  
Christ will call us home to heav - en; at his ta - ble we'll sit down.



Breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.  
Sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.  
Pray, O pray, that ho - ly man - na will be scat-tered all a-round.  
Christ will gird him-self and serve us with sweet man-na all a-round.

This hymn comes out of the early 19th-century southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12-13). As its name shows, the five-note tune was created for this text.

# 834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me  
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
 fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

# God Be with You Till We Meet Again 541

*Unison* *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels  
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -  
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils  
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:  
tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:  
thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:  
float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

*Unison*

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

A North American Congregational minister wrote this text as a Christian expansion of the root sense of "good-bye": God be [with] ye/you. The tune, named for a cousin, was composed by one of the few 20th-century British composers to make a major contribution to hymnody.