

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 7, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book (“pew pad”) where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together. We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.

** indicates please stand as you are able.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Helland

PRELUDE

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

Organ

James Boeringer

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Mike Helland

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.

—from Psalm 23:1-3 (NRSV)

***SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

“SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US”

(Hymn #522)

(VERSE 1)

Savior, like a Shepherd lead us
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare:

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
thou hast bought us, thine we are;

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
thou hast bought us, thine we are.

(VERSE 2)

We are thine, do thou befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray:

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear, O hear us when we pray.

(VERSE 3)

Thou hast promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to thee.

(VERSE 4)

Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
thou hast loved us, love us still.

“JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING”

(Hymn #194)

(VERSE 1)

Jesus came, the heavens adoring –
came with peace from realms on high,
Jesus came for our redemption,
Humbly came on earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia! came in deep humility.

(VERSE 2)

Jesus comes to us in mercy
When our hearts are bowed with care;
Jesus comes in power, to answer
Every earnest, heartfelt prayer:
Alleluia! Alleluia! comes to save us from despair.

(VERSE 3)

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing –
All the past he now forgives;
Jesus comes to share his kingdom
With the sinners he receives:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Death is conquered: Jesus lives!

(VERSE 4)

Jesus comes on clouds triumphant
When the heavens shall pass away;
Jesus comes again in glory –
Let us then our homage pay,
Alleluia! ever singing till the dawn of endless day.

TIME OF PRAYER

Dawn Troxel

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Call to Confession

Friends, in as much as God is our shepherd,
let us not fear,
but confess our sin that God may restore our souls.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, we confess to you and to one another
that we have not always followed Christ's example.
When we have been abused,
we have been abusive in return.
We have gone astray.
Lead us back into your fold
and guard our souls in Jesus' name. Amen.**

[Silent Prayer]

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, the promise of our faith is that
if we entrust ourselves to the One who judges justly,
we need not feel threatened,
for we will be returned to righteousness.
Having been brought back into the safety of God's fold,
let us share our peace with one another.

SONG OF WORSHIP:

...PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

"THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT"

(Hymn #330)

(VERSE 1)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me

the quiet waters by.

(VERSE 2)

My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

(VERSE 3)

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill:
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

(VERSE 4)

My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dowst with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

(VERSE 5)

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Don Meekhof

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

Dawn Troxel

Invitation to the Offering

Our God has prepared a table before us
and our cup overflows.

So let us give generously from our common wealth,
as our way of praising God and giving to those in need.

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***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

Holy and generous God,
you have anointed us and we are yours.
Bless these tithes and offerings
that they may become green pastures and still waters
for any and all who need your comfort and restoration.
Amen.

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Please be seated. The ushers will pass the offering plates.

The children are excused at this time to attend Junior Chapel.

Offertory

Organ

"Chorus of the Blessed Spirits"

Christoph W. Von Gluck

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Karen Colvin

Ezekiel 34:11–16 (NIV)

¹¹ "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

John 10:1–10 (NIV)

¹ "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 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 listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

MESSAGE

Rev. Don Meekhof

"Access to Real Living

Sermon Text: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." – John 10:10 (NSRV)

***SONG OF WORSHIP:**

"JESUS, I COME"

(Hymn #448)

(VERSE 1)

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus I come, Jesus I come;
into thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of my sickness into thy health,

out of my want and into thy wealth,
out of my sin and into thyself,
Jesus, I come to thee.

(VERSE 2)

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;
into the glorious gain of thy cross,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,
out of life's storms and into thy calm,
out of distress to jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to thee.

(VERSE 3)

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come, Jesus I come;
into the joy and light of thy home,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold,
into the peace of thy sheltering fold,
ever thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to thee.

SHARING AROUND CHRIST'S TABLE—COMMUNION

Rev. Don Meekhof

Christ becomes a part of our flesh through Holy Communion.

The Lord's Supper is not an end in itself. It always points beyond itself to celebrate God's grace and covenant faithfulness. This does not mean the physical aspects of the celebration are incidental or unimportant. The Lord's Supper should be a celebration fitting to the abundant grace of God offered in Christ.

**Invitation to the Lord's Supper
Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup
Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ**

***CLOSING SONG**

It is the custom at Knox, in celebration of Holy Communion, to hold hands and form a circle around the sanctuary to sing our closing song...

"BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS"

(Hymn #708)

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Don Meekhof

POSTLUDE

Organ

“Postlude on ‘Morning Song’”

from Kentucky Harmony

In the pulpit today: : Don Meekhof is our “*Temporary Stated Supply*” pastor. Those words in quotes are the official title given by Presbytery because with Shared Ministry there is no full-time pastor. However, Don most definitely has a full-time love for shepherding the flock of Christ and we are blessed to have him with us!