

The Church Responds

*The Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed *(In Unison)*

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.

The Prayers of the People and 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.

A Minute for Stewardship

The Church Goes Forth to Serve

*The Closing Hymn #99 "He Leadeth Me" *(Sing to the Lord)*

He leadeth me! O blessed tho't! O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!

Whate'er I do, where'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me; He leadeth me. By His own hand He leadeth me.

His faithful foll'wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,

By waters still, o'er troubled sea, Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ever murmur nor repine,

Content, whatever lot I see, Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

And when my task on earth is done, When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won,

E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God thro' Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

*The Benediction, Benediction Response, and Postlude

Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

May 3, 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

10:30 AM

The Church in Preparation

The Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Introit and Time of Centering #202 "Now Praise the Hidden God of Love"

Now praise the hidden God of love,
in whom we all must live and move,
who shepherds us at ev'ry stage,
through youth, maturity, and age:

Who challenged us, when we were young,
to storm the citadels of wrong;
in care for others taught us how
God's true community must grow:

Who bids us never lose our zest,
though age is urging us to rest,
but proves to us that we have still
a work to do, a place to fill.

The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Though the way seems long and the road is often rocky,

Leader 2: We trust the One who leads us forward.

Leader 1: As we journey through unknown terrain,
On a path that twists and turns,

Leader 2: We place our lives in Christ's loving care.

Leader 1: Christ leads us to green pastures and still waters.

Leader 2: Christ comforts our hearts and restores our souls.

Leader 1: Let us worship the One who shepherds us through every season.

Leader 2: Let us praise the One who gives us fresh hope and new life.

Leader 1: Let us worship God!

The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Shepherd God, you love all of your sheep—those who remain close and those who stray, those who are consistently faithful and those who have wandered away. In these lonely, anxious times, remind us again that we are your people. Help us to recognize your voice and follow your call. Help us to rest in your presence and trust in your care, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

***The Opening Hymn #250** “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” *(Glory to God)*

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

The Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we are the sheep of your pasture, but so often we reject your love and care. We don’t really think we need a shepherd. We don’t really want to be part of a flock. Like willful sheep, we insist on going our own way—even when it leads us right over a cliff. Forgive us, Lord. Keep seeking us when we are lost. Keep lifting us when we fall. Keep calling us back to your path so that we may live as your faithful flock, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

A Time of Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

Musical Response

“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.

The Church in Proclamation

The Scripture Readings

Psalm 23

Portions of John 10

Leader: The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Special Music

“Because He Lives”
Flutist: Deanna Golden

The Micro Message

Musical Response #100 “The Lord’s My Shepherd” *(Sing to the Lord)*

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

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.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still

My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me,
And in God’s house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

The Sermon

“The Good Shepherd”

Rev. Merry Meloy

The Hymn #578

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

(Sing to the Lord)

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.

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.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful tho’ we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor; Early let us do Thy will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our beings fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us; love us still.