



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 22, 2018



Prelude

"Open My Eyes"

arr. By Karen Thompson

Westminster Peal

Gathering as the Children of God

Elder Pat Davis

One: Come, walk with the Lord this day.

All: We seek places of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.

One: The Shepherd will lead you to places where your soul may be restored.

All: We come, sometimes fearful of the hostilities of the world.

One: In the midst of all the turmoil, The Shepherd will provide for your needs abundantly.

All: Surely these wonders will heal and restore our spirits. Amen.

† Opening Hymn No. 171

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Davis

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Davis

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

† Response

"Gloria, Gloria"

(hymn no. 576)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**



Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Ricardo Green

† Those who are able, please stand

"In words of scripture the people are called to confess the reality of sin in personal and common life. Claiming the promises of God sealed in our baptism, we humbly confess our sin. Having confessed our sin, we remember the promises of God's redemption, and the claims God has on all human life. The assurance of God's forgiving grace is declared in the name of Jesus Christ. We accept God's forgiveness, confident that in dying to sin, God raises us to new life." – The PC(USA) Book of Common Worship

Anthem/Special Music

"Psalm 23"

by Matthias Young
Matthias Young, Tenor

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside
the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in paths of righteousness for
his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will
fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou
anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all of my days: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord for ever more.*

Today we welcome Elder Rita Sheffey as our guest preacher. Elder Sheffey is currently enrolled in "Introduction to Preaching" at Emory University where she is pursuing a Masters in Religion and Public Life. Her sermon this morning is the culmination of her studies this semester.

Time with the Children

Elder Rita Sheffey

See children's options on back of bulletin

Scripture Lesson (p. 97 NT)

John 10:11-18

Elder Sheffey

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Elder Sheffey

† **Affirmation of Faith**

From the Second Helvetic Confession

Elder Sheffey

And since there is always but one God, and there is one mediator between God and people, Jesus the Messiah, and one Shepherd of the whole flock, one Head of this body, and, to conclude, one Spirit, one salvation, one faith, one Testament or covenant, it necessarily follows that there is only one Church. We, therefore, call this Church catholic because it is universal, scattered through all parts of the world, and extended unto all times, and is not limited to any times or places.



† **Passing of the Peace**

Elder Sheffey

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

† Hymn No. 85

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Church Family Life

Rev. Susan Haynes

Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row. If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the Narthex.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Haynes

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.



Offering

Offertory

“Aria”

by Michael Helman

† **Response**

The Doxology

***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 Thanksgiving**

Rev. Haynes

† **Closing Hymn No. 387**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

† **Benediction**

Rev. Haynes

† **Congregational Response**

“Amen”

(hymn no. 587)

† **Postlude**

“Improvisation”

by Nick Johns-Cooper

† Those who are able, please stand

The lyrics of this hymn were written by Dorothy Ann Thrupp, who lived from 1779-1847 in London. She published several books of poetry and hymns for children. This particular hymn is included in *Hymns for the Young* in 1836.

Worship Enrichment. Worship Enrichment is led by Carrie Southard at the 11:00 service after the children's time. Children, K - 5th grade, are invited to join Carrie in the chapel for worship enrichment activities. The children will return to their parents during the Hymn following the "Passing of the Peace." Children 4 years and younger who opt to attend 11:00 worship until the children's time, will depart for childcare to Room 120 for the remainder of the service.



MVPC Mission Statement

Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



Giving to MVPC is easy online

<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>

MVPC Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
TJ Shirley, Minister of Worship & Arts
Elizabeth Small, Dir. of Youth Ministry
Rev. Ricardo Green, Pastor of Spanish Ministries
Nick Johns-Cooper, Organist

Lillianette Cook, Handbell Choir Director
Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations
Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord.