

F i r s t 

Presbyterian

Church of Monroe

April 22, 2018; 11:00 AM

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The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ and to proclaim his salvation in worship, education, and outreach.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**We invite all who are able to stand where there is an asterisk.*

OPENING WORDS

The death of Jesus is for us nothing if we have not died with him.

The resurrection of our Lord is for us nothing if we have not been raised with him.

Christ is risen. Hallelujah!

And we have been raised with him. Hallelujah! Amen!

PRELUDE

“O Worship the King”

arr. Sandra Eithun

Sanctus Ringers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bless God, all people, and let the sound of God's praise be heard.

God has kept us among the living and has prevented our feet to slip.

Even though we have been tested by fire and been led through dangerous waters,

God has brought us unto a spacious place.

Let us praise God!

Let us praise God indeed!

*OPENING HYMN #234 “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we confess that there are many hours when we are not mindful of your presence. We ignore the comfort and avoid the challenges that come from your Word and Spirit. Forgive us and restore the joy of knowing you personally.

SILENT CONFESSION

HYMN #579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #817 “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” vs. 1-2

*We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as one e'er spoke, “My peace be with you here.”
We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice and cry, “My Lord and God!”*

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*Children 3rd grade and younger are welcome to continue worship in the Wee
Believers Room, #159.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING – Acts 4:5-12

NT p. 121

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BELL MEDITATION “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” arr. Kevin McChesney

St. Paul's Bell Choir and Sanctus Ringers, directed by Cathy Brodie

SECOND READING – John 10:11-18

NT p. 103-104

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Lord is My Helper”

HYMN #187 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

OFFERING *Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry.*

OFFERTORY

“The Lord is My Shepherd”

Allen Pote

The Lord is my shepherd. Nothing shall I want. My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters. The Lord is my shepherd, who restores my life, leads me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of the Lord's name. And even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff will comfort me. The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want. My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters. 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 in the house of my God I will live forever. The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.

*DOXOLOGY ★606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Take from our hands what is yours, O Lord, to build up your church in mission and love. And return to us your peace that we may be a vibrant witness of you in the world. Amen.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #277

“Hail Thee, Festival Day”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Processional”

William Mathias

TODAY

Fellowship in Boyd Chapel

Please join us for fellowship in Boyd Chapel after worship today.

Musical Guests

We welcome to our music leadership this morning the St. Paul's Methodist Church Bell Choir and their director, Cathy Brodie. Our bell choir joined them at their 9:00 worship service earlier today and now they are joining us. It is a real pleasure and privilege to play with such a large handbell choir and such a fine one. Please welcome these musicians and Christian neighbors and greet them at our coffee hour following the service today.

How to Pray With Others

Do you know how to pray out loud? Other than saying grace at table or the Lord's Prayer, are you comfortable to offer a prayer for someone who is asking you to, who stands in need of prayer, who is burdened? Most of us aren't. Praying out loud feels scary. We are afraid to stumble over our words and to make a fool of ourselves. Such fear is unwarranted. Because there are simple steps to follow. After worship this morning at 12:30 p.m. in the Cairl Room, we will go over some of these simple steps. And we will even have a chance to practice praying out loud. This session is sponsored by our Board of Deacons. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Welcome to FPC of Monroe!

We are glad you are here today! We hope you find this a community of faith where you experience God in Jesus Christ. Childcare is always provided on Sunday mornings and the nursery is located near the parking lot entrance of the church. Hearing assistance is available.

Adult Education Classes in the Cairl Room

Mission Emphasis in April

During the month of April, all adult education programs during the 9:30 a.m. hour will focus on mission and mission agencies. Here then are the programs:

April 29: Oaks of Righteousness/Victory Village with Pastor Heather Boone. The church runs a homeless shelter and provides additional services to reduce homelessness.

Coming in May for Adult Education Classes:

Exodus: From Bondage to Freedom

The second book of the Bible is Exodus, which chronicles the story of the Israelites' deliverance by God from Egyptian bondage unto freedom. But once they escape, the people are left to wander about in the wilderness for forty years. It is during this time that their leader, Moses, receives the Ten Commandments, that we hear the grumblings of the people, and that we find the ten plagues, including the passing over of the angel of death. Exodus is a foreshadowing of our own history of salvation through Jesus Christ, the Passover lamb. This class will meet on **May 6** and **May 13**. The facilitator will be Dallas Dieckmann.

Pentecost: The Power from Above

The feast of Pentecost is typically viewed as the birthday of the church. But what did really happen on that day? What is the meaning of the Jewish feast of Pentecost. And how do we experience our own Pentecost and "Pentecostal" power in our life? This class will meet on **May 20**. Our facilitator will be Pastor Annemarie Kidder.

Bible Studies

On Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Dallas and Donna Dieckmann will lead the Jesus Calling book study of Experiencing God's Presence. On Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Alice Kostoff will lead the Jesus Calling book study on Putting Jesus First. The study groups will continue during May and June.

New Youth Group and Confirmation Class

We have kicked off our new youth group. The next meeting is on Wednesday, **April 25** from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the youth room. It includes a time of prayer, bible study, fun, and fellowship. We meet every other week in the Teen Room. Feel free to bring a friend!

Public Luncheon

This Thursday, **April 26** from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. is the Public Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$7.00 and all proceeds will go to the Now I Lay Me Down Bed Ministry. Invite a friend!

Congregation Appreciation Dinner

The Congregational Life Committee and the Deacons will be sponsoring the Congregation Appreciation Dinner on **May 6** after worship. Please join us!

Mission/Oaks of Righteousness

The BLUE BIN is back. It is located in the office lobby. This month Mission Committee is collecting Ranch Dressing for Oaks for the meals at the Homeless Shelter. Thanks for helping out.

Prayer Team

Lois Barnes is heading up the Prayer Team. Please direct any prayer requests to her. You may text or call Lois at 419-308-0262. Information shared is confidential!

Sermons

Printed copies of the weekly sermon are available in the church office in the mailbox labeled Sermons.

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Director of Music Ministry:** Susan Barker;

Administrative Assistant: Sara Jones; **Financial Secretary:** Suzanne Bondie;

Sexton: Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Suzanne Bondie, Amy Morgan;

Custodian: Sean Farris

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dean McGormley, Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley

Liturgist: Cheryl Eder

Ushers: Jim and Sue Heisler, Randy Stiffler, George Kostoff

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are from the Lectionary. We invite you to take time each day to read the Bible passages in preparation for Sunday morning.

Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd
Monday	Acts 4:5-12	Peter and John before the council
Tuesday	1 John 3:16-24	Love one another
Wednesday	Genesis 48:8-21	God has been my shepherd
Thursday	Ezekiel 34:11-24	God will look after God's sheep
Friday	Mark 6:30-34	Jesus, the compassionate shepherd
Saturday	Psalms 23	The divine shepherd
Sunday	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	12:15	Fellowship (Boyd Chapel)
	12:30	"Praying with Others" (Cairl Room)
MONDAY	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	11:00	Staff Meeting
	2:00	Rhythmic Ringers
	7:00	Session
WEDNESDAY	9:30	Chair Yoga
	1:00	Deacons Visit
	6:00	Bible Study (Library)
	6:00	Confirmation Youth Group
	6:30	Bell Choir
	7:30	Choir
THURSDAY		Newsletter Deadline
	10:00	Bible Study (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Public Luncheon
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY	5:30	Socialites
SUNDAY	9:30	Adult Education Class
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship