

**The First Presbyterian Church**  
300 South Main Street  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 21, 2024 – 10 a.m.  
Simulcast Service

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

Diademata Fantasy

*arr. James D. Ployhar*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;  
God's steadfast love endures forever.

✠**HYMN 393**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
And also with you.

✠**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (Hymn 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen.

**SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM**

Kennedy Breneman, daughter of Mitchell & Paige Settino

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**APOSTLES' CREED** (*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.

**RESPONSE**—"Baptized in Water" (hymnal p. 482 1<sup>st</sup> stanza)

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King; Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST READING

Psalm 23

### ANTHEM

My Song is Love Unknown

*Eugene Englert*

*My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me, and love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be. O who am I that for my sake my Lord shall take frail flesh, and die. He came from his blest throne. Salvation to bestow, but men made strange and none Christ would know. But O my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need His life did spend. Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine. O never was love dear King, O never was grief like thine. Oh, oh, ah, ah, ah, oh, this is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.*

### SECOND READING

John 10:11-18

### SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

### ✠HYMN 693

Though I May Speak

GIFT OF LOVE

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND ADULT BAPTISM

David Allen, Thomas Bartley, Gianna Brant, Jonathan & Julianne Muller, Matthew Nicholson, Hope Sehring and Randy & Kathy Wilson

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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.**

### OUR JOYFUL RESPONSE - TITHES & OFFERINGS

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP – Mr. David Cook, ruling elder

### OFFERTORY

On a Hymn Song of Philip Bliss

*David R. Holsinger*

### ✠RESPONSE

Doxology (*hymnal p. 609*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

### ✠PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### ✠HYMN 187

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY

### ✠BENEDICTION

### ✠POSTLUDE

The Saints' Hallelujah

*arr. Luther Henderson*

✠ *Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so*

### WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING:

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor/Head of Staff; Dr. W. Jeffrey Jones, Minister of Music / Organist; Mrs. Sarah Hines, Lector; Chancel Choir; FPC Wind Ensemble; Ms. Gloria Christofano, Soloist; Mrs. Chris Terrill, Video Technician.

**In memoriam:** Janice Ann James, April 15, 2024

**The chancel flowers are placed** in honor of Kennedy Settino's baptism and in loving memory of great-grandmothers: Carole Phillips, Susan Lucas and Dolores Reabe.

*Music for this morning's service has been made possible, in part, by Edgar and Joanne Highberger and by gifts to the Dr. Edgar S. Highberger Music Fund.*

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*The Saints Hallelujah (Luther Henderson); Used by permission of Canadian Brass Publications Inc.*

## **FIRST NEWS: The News of FPC**

**PRAYER LIST:** Nick Behun, Lisa Bulger, Art Caramella, George Chambers, Sandy Cole, Dan & Ginger Collier, Beverly & William Courtney, Edna Mary Cox, Bob Dittman, Karen Dubosky, Michael Felice, Edgar and Joanne Highberger, Gretchen Highberger, Lucas James, Don Kemerer, Marge Machesney, George Maser, Joanne McIlhattan, John Noel, Dan P., Nancy Pallitta, Kathleen Piekut, Gerry Pricer, Susan Ruff, Judy Rugh, Nancy Skrot, Mary Smith, Nancy Stahl, Eileen Stefl, Crystal Stone, Sonny & Jo Thomas, Lynda Turin, Linda & Tom Turin, Doug Wessling, Don Whipkey.

**VISITING IN WORSHIP TODAY?** If you are visiting in worship today or have been for a while, please sign the Visitor Card found in the pew racks and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We would love to be able to contact you and answer any questions you may have about FPC. Please take a moment to greet Dr. Ankrum at the end of the service; he would love to get to know you and welcome you to our faith community.

**NURSERY OPEN DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP – Children, Birth – PreK:** Drop off care is available Sunday mornings with Ms. Gali! Pack your child's drinks and snacks and drop them off for the fun! Gali is looking forward to meeting you and your children!

**CHILDREN'S RESOURCE TOTES -** First Presbyterian Church also provides a comfort room and age-appropriate worship resource totes for families with young children to use during the service. They are in the narthex, or by asking an usher for assistance.

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SPONSORING A FELLOWSHIP HOUR?** Provide 6 dozen baked goods **or** \$35 donation to cover the cost. Use the sign-up sheet on the Dining Room bulletin board. Your contributions and participation are greatly appreciated. Fellowship Hours are held usually on the first and third Sundays of every month in the Dining Room. Coffee is provided by the Millers of 19 Coffee. *Today's Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Youth Group. See you there!*

**FIRST FRIDAYS: NEWS & UPDATES:** If you haven't been receiving our First Fridays: News & Updates, please call Kim at the church office (724-832-0150) to verify and/or update your correct email address.

**FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS: A DAILY DEVOTIONAL –** By ten o'clock in the morning each day, Monday through Friday, Martin posts a new devotion for the day. Please join in the practice of daily devotion for such a time as this.



**DO YOU WISH TO GIVE ONLINE?** To set up your own recurring donations, either visit the church website or scan the QR code with your smart phone, or contact the church office for help. Your support of Christ's church in this place is greatly appreciated!



**ADULT FORUM ON SUNDAY MORNING** meets on **Sundays at 9 a.m.** in the PW Lounge on the first floor of the CE Wing. We are reading and discussing a wonderful book written by the late Rev. Peter Gomes: ***The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart.*** Gomes unpacks the scriptures for his reader, covering how the Bible is often misunderstood by Christians and others alike. The book helps to open up our hearts and minds to the profound words of scripture that give us comfort and challenge our faith as well.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 7:30 A.M.:** This Bible study has many wonderful ingredients: warm fellowship, good friendships, open discussions, great breakfasts AND the opportunity to grow in faith together. We gather every Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at Eat n' Park across from Westmoreland Mall. We are currently studying the book of Joshua.

**THE LAST TUESDAY BOOK CLUB** will meet **Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m.** in the PW Lounge on the first floor of the CE Wing. This year, all the stories will be taken from ***The World's Greatest Short Stories,*** Dover Thrift Edition. In April we will read and discuss the following: Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis – The Fortune-Teller; Luigi Pirandello – Mrs. Frola and Mr. Ponza, Her Son-in-Law; F. Scott Fitzgerald – Bernice Bobs Her Hair (can be accessed at [bernicebobs \(wsu.edu\)](http://www.bernicebobs.wsu.edu)) or obtain a copy from Martin.

**THRU THE BIBLE CLASS** will meet **Monday, April 29 at 7 p.m.** in the Assembly Room of the church building. We have been working our way through the Bible from cover to cover and will be discussing First & Second Timothy. The class lasts just an hour and is led by Dr. Ankrum. Please join us for a lively discussion!

### **STEWARDSHIP CORNER – WHERE IS YOUR HEART?**

Everyone enjoyed the potluck luncheon sponsored by the Stewardship Committee. It was a great gathering of good food and good fellowship, but also a good time to consider the challenge of healthy stewardship. The participants were asked to consider what Jesus's words meant to them: 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' Here are a few responses:

**To be kind and thoughtful and to care about people, not just yourself.**

**Quilts 4 Kids. Comfort Quilts. Project Linus.**

**Family (including church family)**

What do Jesus' words mean to you? .....

**THE CORNERSTONE GROUP INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM ... We will be dining at the First Wok, 321 West Main Street, Ligonier, on May 11, at 5:30 p.m.** This is a Thai/Japanese restaurant that is superb. Please sign-up before May 7 by calling Sandy Beauregard (724-834-2247 or 724-331-3457) or emailing her ([sandbeau1@verizon.net](mailto:sandbeau1@verizon.net)) to reserve your spot.

# Splash in God's Word

## VBS 2024 - June 10 – 14; 9 a.m. – Noon

**Calling All Volunteers! Water you up to this summer? Do you like to stay current? Looking for a refreshing experience? Water you waiting for? Join in the floods of laughter! VBS is sure to make a big splash!**

**If you are not there, you will be mist!  
Sea you this summer!**

**Contact Wendy McCann to volunteer today.  
Registration for super so-fish-ticated  
child participants coming soon!**

THE WESTMORELAND CHORAL SOCIETY under the direction of Tom Octave concludes its series of "Love" concerts at 3 p.m., Sunday, May 5 in the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary. The concert titled "Spirit of Love" will also feature the WCS Youth Choir. The program will include a broad range of choral styles found in such diverse pieces as 'Festival Sanctus' by John Leavitt, In Virtute Tua by Grzegori Gorczy, 'Sing a Mighty Song' by Daniel Gawthrop, and 'Go Down Moses' by Mark Hayes. Selections also include 'Inscription of Hope' by Randall Stroope and 'There is Peace' by Jim Papoulis, the latter of which will be performed with the WCS Youth Choir. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15 (Adults), \$10 (Seniors) and \$5 (Students).

THE MEMBERSHIP & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE welcomes you to join them on **June 29 at 2:00 p.m.** to see **"The Color Purple"** at the **Benedum Center**. We have 14 tickets available and we will be offering a ride in the church van. After the theater performance, we will dine at The Juniper Grille in Murrysville. Tickets for the performance are \$70 each and include transportation. Dinner is on your own. Contact Sandy Beauregard (724-834-2247 or 724-331-3457) or email her ([sandbeau1@verizon.net](mailto:sandbeau1@verizon.net)) to reserve your spot.

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP** sponsored by First Presbyterian Church will be on **Saturday, May 4**. The rain date is Saturday, May 11. We meet in the parking lot at Lynch Field across from the Dairy Queen on 119N at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers should be at least 14 years of age (volunteers under age 16 are asked to be accompanied by their parent/guardian). **The more help we get the quicker we will be done.** Please contact Joe Napsha at 724-454-3517 or [jnapsha@tribweb.com](mailto:jnapsha@tribweb.com) to volunteer.

### YOUTH GROUP NEWS @ FPC

**GAMES WITH RICK**, Sunday, April 21 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the youth room. The city of Drakkenheim was devastated by a meteor. A mysterious, magical, mutation-causing haze blankets the buildings and alleyways. Five factions vie for control of the ruins. Our heroes must navigate monsters and intrigue to restore the city and save the kingdom.

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING** – Sunday, April 28, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Join us in the youth room for lunch, games and Vacation Bible School planning. Lunch will be provided.

## 393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;  
 3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;  
 on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;  
 Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.

on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,  
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.  
 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

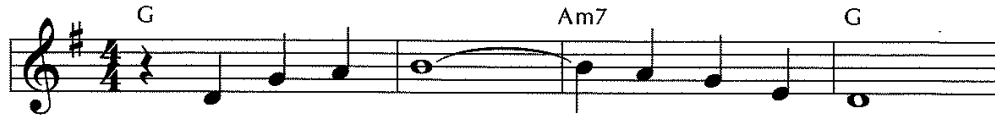
sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.  
 And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.  
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

# Though I May Speak

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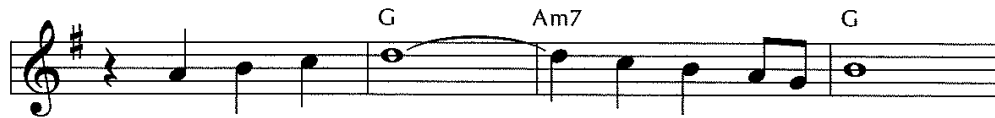
## The Gift of Love



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,  
 2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,  
 3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,  
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,  
 our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,  
 but not be given by love with - in,  
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



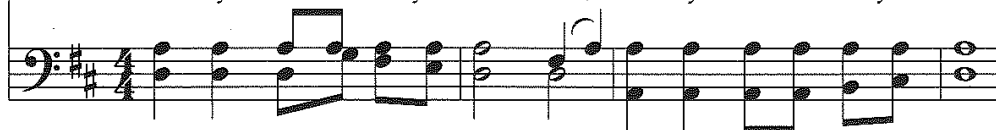
as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.  
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.  
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

As paraphrases of 1 Corinthians 13:1, 3 the first two stanzas here are in the first person singular, yet they lead into a plural prayer for the gift of such love, for it thrives in community. These words are especially poignant with this adaptation of an English folk melody.

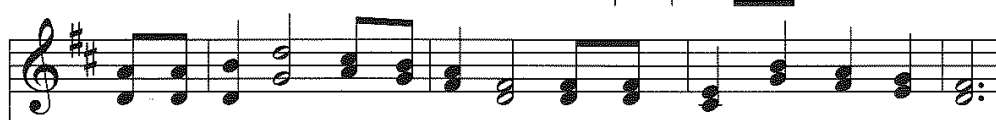
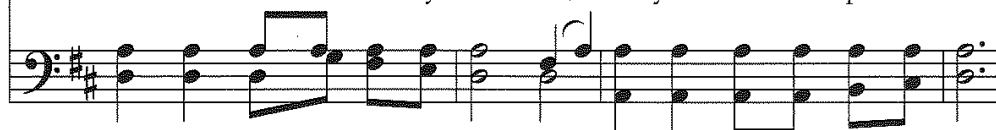
## Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187



1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.  
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.  
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.  
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a-stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.



This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.