

First Presbyterian Church OF PARKERSBURG

GATHERING, GROWING, CARING, GOING



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Rev. Annie McMillan - *Pastor*
Scott Rockhold - *Organist* ♦ Chris Alfred - *Financial Manager/Treasurer*
Judi Echard - *Office Secretary* ♦ Senta Goudy - *Clerk of Session*

April 21, 2024
10:30 a.m.



WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION,
REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY
AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sharing the Life of the Church

GOD SETS A TABLE BEFORE US AND ANOINTS US WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS; OUR CUP OVERFLOWS (SEE PSALM 23:5; 45:7). WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Coffee Hour - Join us at 10 a.m. in the Harris Room for light snacks and fellowship. Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by **Joyce Boso**. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, sign up outside the Harris Room, or call Joyce Boso, 304-488-1205.

The Gathering - This week's meal will be an Italian Feast. We are asking for main entrées, salads, bread sticks/garlic bread, or desserts. Please sign up in the foyer and plan to join us.

New StoryTrek Book - To commemorate Earth Day (tomorrow) we have placed a new book in the StoryTrek in our Prayer Garden. It is titled *Something, Someday* by Amanda Gorman, #1 New York Times Bestselling Author, and illustrated by Christian Robinson. We invite you to take a walk in the beautiful garden and labyrinth and enjoy it.

Valley Gem Cruise Today, 3:00 - 4:30 Even if you have not signed up, you may still join us as we fellowship with other Presbyterian cluster churches for a cruise on the Valley Gem Sternwheeler. We will share a potluck meal as we enjoy the beauty of Spring. The cost per person is \$5, with a cap of \$25 per family. **Boarding begins at 2:30.** The Valley Gem is located at 601 Front Street in Marietta. The boat is docked on the Muskingum River, under the Washington Street Bridge. Parking is available under the bridge and on the street.

Bluestone Events - Check out the following opportunities at Bluestone Camp and Retreat:

- **April 26-28 -The Guys Weekend.**
- **May 3-5 - Spring Retreat**
(for the whole family)

For more details, see the insert in today's bulletin, or visit <https://bluestonecamp.org>.

- **Summer Camp - Beginning June 16**
(for rising 3rd thru 12th graders)
Payment plans are available - visit their website for information and registration
<https://bluestonecamp.org>

We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to relax, work, play and fellowship. Bluestone is a beautiful setting and offers a truly memorable experience - ask anyone who's been there.

Graduate Recognition - In May we will honor 2024 high school and college graduates in the newsletter, and during worship on May 26. If you or a family member will be graduating this spring, please send the name, school and type of degree to the church office no later than **Tuesday, April 23**. Call 304-422-5426, or send an email to office@fpcpborgwv.org.

Church Directories - Updated church directories are available outside the Sanctuary. Please take as many as you need. Contact the church office if you would like an electronic copy.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Preparation for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

Triumphant Fanfare

Brian Glyncannon

***Call to Worship**

Open your hearts to Christ's love this day.

Christ is risen!

Love is victorious over death!

Christ, our risen Lord, invites you to walk with him.

We accept that invitation, confident in his guidance.

Be ready to serve the Lord in all that you do,
for his love has been poured upon you.

Let us offer our hearts to God in prayer and praise.

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

Thank you, loving God, for bringing us to this time of worship.

Refresh us and heal us again.

*Remind us of the many ways in which you have blessed our lives
with your abundant love and your presence.*

*Guide our hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words
and our souls may be stirred into active service to your people.*

We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

***Hymn 667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

Children's Time

Cents-Ability Offering

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

*Those who are able, please stand.

Prayer of Confession

*God of mercy, so often we grumble and complain
about our daily lot in life.*

*We throw our hands up in the air
and act as though we are defeated.*

*There are so many times when we could have done something
to help someone else, but chose instead to turn away.*

*We turn our backs on the needs of the poor
or give only a cursory acknowledgment of their plight.*

And we cry, "Why isn't God taking care of all this?"

*How many times have we gone against your will
through our attitudes and language,
through our thoughts and actions?*

Forgive us, God of love.

Help us step out of our shadows into your light.

Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness.

*Fill us with your healing love and help us to become
the disciples that you need to serve in this world;
through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.*

SILENCE for personal confession ...

Words of Assurance and Pardon

See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God.

So listen to the sound of the waters and remember
you have been marked as a beloved child of God.

As beloved children, we are made one with Christ
and brought into the righteousness of God.

Friends, believe the good news with great joy!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Response

Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

*Ritual of Friendship

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and greetings with those around you.

Sharing the Life of the Church

Special Music

I Love to Tell the Story

W.G. Fischer/arr. Lani Smith

GROWING

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.
Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

John 10:11-18

p. 759

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Scripture

1 John 3:16-24

p. 863

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“LOVE IN TRUTH”

Rev. Annie McMillan

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

*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.*

CARING

The Offering

Hallelujah! What a Savior

P.P. Bliss/arr. Cindy Berry

*The Doxology

Hymn 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication

4.

Prayers of the People

The 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.*

GOING

***Hymn 757**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

***Benediction**

The Postlude

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Robert Williams
arr. James Mansfield



Worship Participants

Beadles - *Connor Buchanan, Ellie Buchanan,
Audrey Hickman, Avalyn Meckley*

Liturgist - *Mikki Bosley*

Sound Technician - *Matt Buchanan*

*Those who are able, please stand.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Today, Sunday, April 21 **4th Sunday of Easter**

Cents-Ability Offering

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Valley Gem Cruise - boarding in Marietta
Boarding begins at 2:30

Monday, April 22 **Earth Day**

- 7:00 p.m. Parkersburg Pride - Room 204



Tuesday, April 23

- 6:00 p.m. Worship & Discipleship Committees - Harris Room

Wednesday, April 24

- 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Meal [Italian Feast] - Stevenson Hall

Thursday, April 25

- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts pack meeting - Rooms 123/124
- 7:15 p.m. Troop 3 Boy Scouts - Scout House

Saturday, April 27

- 8:30 a.m. Saturday Stewards
- 12:00 p.m. HA Meeting - Stevenson Hall

Sunday, April 28 **5th Sunday of Easter**

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Mission Committee - Harris Room

*Scripture Readings for next week: April 28
Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.



¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask,

because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Prayer List – Please remember the following in your prayers:

Bill Elkins
Jean Singer
Bill Nolen
Pat Douglass
Peace in Israel
Kathy Schlarb
Butch Shepherd
Harriet Litteral
Karen Vanoster
Wayne Sanders

Pat & Ann Patterson
Melanie Thompson
Cunningham Family
Ruth Ann Huddle
Fleming Family
Marianne Mason
Becky Holdren & Family
Homebound Members
Troops – World Peace

Elsie Coleman
Dennis Bolten
Mary Withum
Juli Springer
Lynn Linville
Susan Miller
Peter Headlee
Vince Eades
Dan Ellis
Brad Carter