



**Seventh & James Baptist Church**  
**April 30, 2023 · 11:00 a.m.**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

(AZMON)  
Alfred Fedak

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

Erin Conaway

One: Beloved child of God, you are welcome here....

**Many: We give thanks to God for bringing us into this moment of worship.**

One: For no matter who you are or where you’ve been, you matter to God and to us.

**Many: Our hearts rejoice and give thanks for all those who have come before us and made a place for us to worship, pray, sing, wonder, doubt, believe, and just be.**

One: May the love of God through Christ our Lord convince you of your worth and invitation into this body of believers as we worship together in thanksgiving and hope.

**Choral Summons**

“He Leadeth Me”

William Bradbury

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate’er I do, where’er I be, still ‘tis God’s hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:  
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.  
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.

**Processional Hymn, No. 337**

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

**Litany of Life Together**

Katie Cook

One: God of Grace, we indeed praise you. The One to whom the sun and moon do bow; the One to whom the waves of the seas submit their fury; the One to whom we turn in desperation and joy.

**Many: You are the One we worship: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

One: Just as you exist in trinitarian community, you created us to dwell together. To share not only our lives as we live them in communion, but also our bread, our money, our hearts, our kindness, our homes, our tables, our sorrows, and our victories.

**Many: Give us the courage to live radically together as your church, as your people.**

One: Your love and grace extend beyond our boundaries and imagination. Infect us with that kind of inviting love that we too may welcome the stranger, give to one another as you have given to us, and share our lives and love in ways that shout your story to the nations.

**All: We are children of your grace, move us closer to one another as you draw us closer to you.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Katie Cook

**Meditation**

“Do You Know Your Shepherd’s Voice?”

Suzanne Lord

CHORISTERS

Jim Williams, *piano*

Do you know your Shepherd’s voice? Are you list’ning with your heart?  
Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart?  
As the world shouts its orders that are easiest to hear,  
Won’t you draw away and listen to your Shepherd standing near?

Do you know your Shepherd’s voice? Are you list’ning with your heart?  
Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart?  
Are you list’ning?

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside quiet waters  
And he restores my soul!

Do you know your Shepherd’s voice? Are you list’ning with your heart?  
Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart?  
Are you list’ning? To your Shepherd?  
Do you know your Shepherd’s voice?

**Reading from the Acts**

*Acts 2:42-47*

Mathis McKeever

**Epistle Reading**

*1 Peter 2:19-25*

Elizabeth Vardaman

**Hymn, No. 405**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

**Gospel Reading**

*John 10:1-10*

Matt Rosencrans

One: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Many: Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers of God’s People**

Matt Rosencrans

**Offertory**

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

(RESIGNATION)  
Raymond H. Haan

*Offering plates are available at the doors of the sanctuary as you leave worship.*

**Doxology**

*(sung to LASST UNS ERFREUEN, tune of “All Creature of Our God and King,” No. 307)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Children’s Sermon**

Leslie Rosencrans

*All children are invited to come forward for the Children’s Sermon.  
Preschoolers [ages 4-kindergarten] may then go to Extended Session.*

**Responsive Reading of Psalm 23**

Scott Turner

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**Many: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

One: He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Many: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me.**

One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**Many: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**Anthem**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

arr. Mack Wilberg

Amy Mora, *flute*  
Eury Alvarez, *oboe*

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

**Sermon**

“Growing in Christ...”

Erin Conaway

(Acts 2:42-47)

**Silent Reflection**

Being in Christ involves living into the difficult discipline or discipleship of fellowship. We seek to care for one another even when injured or offended, which requires discipline in binding and loosing ourselves to repent and to forgive, all sustained in Christ.

— Dale Andrews, *Feasting on the Word*, Year A, vol. 4, p. 49

**Hymn of Commitment, No. 640**

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

*If you would like to make a public profession of your faith in Christ  
or request membership in this congregation, our ministers  
will greet you at the front of the sanctuary.*

**Congregational Response**

In response to your decision, we pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place; we offer you our love, our care, our kinship, and our hopes; we hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, by God’s grace. Amen.

**Pastoral Blessing**

Erin Conaway

## Choral Benediction

“Blessing II”

Natalie Sleeth

CHORISTERS

Jim Williams, *piano*

O may the peace of God be with you evermore,  
And may the pow’r of His great love your soul again restore,  
And may you always know His never ending care,  
And feel His gracious Spirit upon you ev’rywhere.

## Postlude

“Sing Praise to the Lord”

(LAUDATE DOMINUM)  
Robert A. Hobby

## Today at Seventh

### Choristers

Dillan Damping

Ezriela Martinez

Chloe Smith

Ava Farris

Keziah Martinez

Edward Smith

Eri Hatakeyama

Mathis McKeever

Wesley Zuniga

Robin Land

Avery Poehls

Audrey Ludwig

Patrick Poehls

**Our Pianist today** is Ellen Deaver.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given by her family in loving appreciation for Carolyn Keathley on her 80th birthday.

Hearing devices are available at the sound booth for any who need assistance.

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