**Montoursville Presbyterian Church**

900 Elm Street, Montoursville, PA

April 21, 2024 9:30am

**Morning Worship**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

 

**God’s People Gather**

*Please observe prayerful silence when the prelude begins.*

PRELUDE     “Almighty”                             *Wayne Watson*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

**We Praise the Lord**

\* CALL TO WORSHIP(Psalm 23, unison)

**The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

**He makes me lie down in green pastures,**

**He leads me beside still waters,**

**He restores my soul.**

**He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

**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 Your staff, they comfort me.**

**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 will follow me all the days of my life,**

**And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: 172 “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**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.** [*silent confession*]

Assurance of Pardon

\*Response of Praise: “Gloria Patri”

Passing the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

 **Hear God’s Word**

CHILDREN’S LESSON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: Acts 4:1-12 (pp. 1093, 1660)

THE EPISTLE: 1 John 3:16-24 (pp. 1230, 1859)

SPECIAL MUSIC “Sing a Joyful Song” *Haney Singers*

THE GOSPEL: John 10:1-21 (pp. 1075, 1633)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

THE SERMON:

It’s Good Shepherd Sunday! *Rev. David C. Smith*

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE:

387 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

(adapted from the Confession of 1967)

**God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which reveals the love of God for humankind, and the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.**

**The Disciples Give Thanks**

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory    “I Ask the Lord”         *Johnny Lange & Jimmy Duncan*

\* Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

THE SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and Lord’s Prayer

 **We Go Forth To Serve**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* HYMN OF SENDING:

538 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Haney Singers*

POSTLUDE   “Arise Toward the Light”     *Tom Birchwood*

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: *Rev. David C. Smith*

Liturgist:  *Diane Casella*

Greeters: *Joyce Wise & Bette Folmar*

Ushers: *S. Rennick, T. Frantz, J. Bergen, N. Bergen*

Organist: *Debbie Keller*

Director of Music Ministries: *Ryan Neidig*

**This Week at MPC**

**Sunday, April 21st**

9:30am Worship Service (S)

12:00pm-5:00pm Williams (FH)

5:30pm FISH potluck (MCEC)

**Monday, April 22nd**

9:00am Prayer Group (MCEC)

10:00am Presbytery Boundary Training (MCEC & ADULT SS)

10:00am-11:30am Yoga (FH)

**Tuesday, April 23rd** *(bulletin announcements due)*

All Day Voting (FH)

**Wednesday, April 24th**

**Thursday, April 25th**

6:30pm-8:30pm AA Meeting (FH)

7:00pm Choir

**Friday, April 26th**

Office Closed

10:00am-11:30am Yoga (FH)

**Saturday, April 27th**

8:00am Spring Clean-up

**Sunday,** **April 28th**

9:30am Worship Service (S)

After worship - FISH photography field trip @ Rider Park

Last Week’s Attendance: 72

**Pastor’s Office:** (570) 368-4747 presbysmith@gmail.com

**Church Office:** Mon-Thurs 9:00-noon (570) 368-1595

**Mailing Address:** 205 Tule St. Montoursville, PA 17754

**E-mail:** montourpc@gmail.com

**Website:** www.montourpres.org

**Announcements for the week of April 21, 2024**

**Welcome to the Montoursville Presbyterian Church.**

Visitors: Please complete a Visitor Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. If you are looking for a church home or membership, please see the Pastor, an Usher, or call the office.

**To assist with your worship experience, we offer:**

**Personal hearing devices** – please see an Usher

**Pew cushions** – stored above the coat racks in the Narthex

**Large print hymnals** – in the Narthex

**Handicap/family restroom** – off the far end of Fellowship Hall

**Nursery care** for children ages up to 5 years old

**Staff:** Deb Rupert,

 Hannah Means, Adele Dunkleberger, Gwen Dunkleberger

**Upcoming FISH activities**

**Tonight —** FISH potluck!  Please bring something that you can make or that someone can help you make or something that you just love and want to share with all of us!  Come to the MCEC @ 5:30 pm and we’ll feast! In addition, we will prepare for the photography project that will be next week.

**April 28 — Field trip and photography project**!  Come to the MCEC after the worship service.  We’ll put on our hiking clothes and go out to Rider Park to take photographs that remind us of/ illustrate Bible verses.  Bring a bag lunch, a phone that can take pictures (or you can borrow one of ours if you don’t have one).  After eating, hiking, and photographing, we will return to the MCEC to finish our project.  Check your email for more details!

**May 5 —** Beauty Around Us:  Remembering God in His Creation.Our photography exhibition! Come after the worship service to see your work mounted and displayed in the narthex!

**Beauty Around Us:  Remembering God in His Creation.**

You are invited to view FISH’s photography display on **Sunday, May 5** after the 9:30 am worship service in the narthex.  Refreshments for everyone.  Please join us!

**MPC Spring Clean-Up**

There will be a workday at the church on Saturday, April 27th at 8:00am for outdoor clean-up of the church grounds. Bring a wheelbarrow, rake, and any other tools you might need. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

**Greeters for April**

4/28 Doc & Kay Shearer

**Greeters for May**

5/5 Mike & Rachel Bradley

5/12 Cathy Rush

5/19 Mike Yourish

5/26 Donna Strein & Bev Mathias

**Ushers for April**

4/28 J. Hopple, C. Hopple, A. Strein, T. Strein

**Ushers for May**

5/5 J. Means, S. Means, N. Bixler, D. Bixler

5/12 K. Ellison, K. Rush, B. Messersmith, M. Yourish

5/19 D. Casella, G, Casella Jr., D. Cillo, M. Cillo

5/26 N. Jones, S. Wolfe, D. Casella, G. Casella Sr.

 **Prayer List**

**Illness, recovery and support:** Susan Baker, Sandy Bernan, Paul Blickley, Nancy Book, Lane Bower, Donald Burleigh and family, Koen Butler, Hobart & Hedi Campbell, Patrick Carmody, Mike Cillo, Elaine Cressman, Pat Damaska, Jackie DeAngelo, Joyce Dotts, Betty Edkin, Ellie English, Gail Fetterman, Janine Fisher, Margaret Fox, Christine Fry, Kevin Gardner, Marcelyn George, Gayle Herron, Buddy Hessert, Clara May Hoff, Jeff Hoff, Rosemary Holmes, John & Margaret Hopper, Cheryl Hopple, Wayne Keller, Doug & Tanga Killian, Pat Korizno, Marilyn Loccassio, Michael Lozano, the Maciejewski family, Brooke Marshall, Ester McLaughlin, Doris Messersmith, Mary Ann Merrill, Barb Miller, Ariel Muhs, Mary Lou & Rick Odell, Amy Peck, Buzz Platt, Phil Preziosi, Eric Ravert, Peggy Rennick, Cathy Rush, Bob Schild, Brad Shaffer, John & Penny Shaw, Kay Shearer, Ellory Sobol-Shelton and family, Bob Shimp, Bobbie Simms, Mindy & Stan Smith, Cheri Stiles, Dorothy Stipp, Jim Sunderland, Fran Tallini, Lois Thomas, Sue Ulmer, Carol & John Wagner, the Walker family, Aiden Wallace, Deanna & Bob Wenner, the Wentzel family, Bobby Wheeler, Marieva Williams, Dawn Zipay.

**Military:**  Duane (DJ) Burleigh, Ryan Burns, Lt. Col. Brady Cillo, Caleb Frantz, Gabe King, Dani Kline, Sgt. J. Patrick Lawracy, David McCollin, Jason Yurek, All military personnel, and their families.

**Others:**  Nthemba Church (Sister church in Africa); Ministries of MPC; Peace in the World; Camp Krislund; Health Care Workers; Schools and Colleges and Universities; Doctors Without Borders; those suffering as a result of the Israel/Hamas war; Ethiopia; Haiti; Ukraine; Sudan; those suffering from natural disasters; all victims of violence.

**Please give updates on the status of those on the prayer list to Anne Strein (570-368-1595, montourpc@gmail.com.)**