

First Presbyterian Church

May 8, 2022

4th Sunday of Easter

Morrison, Illinois

10:15AM

Enter This Church That We Might Worship Together!

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PRELUDE

THE GATHERING WELCOME

Pastor: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

INTROIT

Morning Has Broken

No. 469 Vs. 3

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION (Psalm 113:5-9)

“Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Psalm 23)

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

**All: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.**

Pastor: He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

All: 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.

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

All: 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.

***HYMN**

Christ Is Alive!

No. 108

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Forgive us, Lord, for the ills that we create and live within. You have lived and died for us. You rose again so we might live into new life. Yet so often, we continue to choose the path of death and destruction. Forgive us for our sins, we pray.....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

Hear the Good News. Christ died and Christ rose again so we may have new life and be forgiven. Let us live in a new life of love. Let us follow the path we know is right and have faith that the Lord God will be with us always. Praise be Jesus’ name forever and ever! Amen

***HYMN**

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

No. 579

TIME WITH THE GROWING CHURCH (Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer (p. 16))

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 10:22-30

Acts 9:36-43

SERMON

***HYMN**

Borning Cry

Insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Concluding with “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.”)

HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

No. 592

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (Unison)

We thank you Lord for our life. Today we give special thanks for our mothers and for being able to understand the love you have for us through them. Help us take this love and all the lessons we have been given so that we may fully utilize our life and serve you with our greatest potential. We pray that as we continue to learn, we keep Christ as our center and our focus. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

No. 464

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE**

PASSING OF THE PEACE (*greeting: “Peace be with you,” response: “and also with you”*)

*You are invited to stand for this portion.

**Please remain seated until the conclusion of the postlude.

The Bible verses are read from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

† † † † †

Depart This House That We Might Witness Together!

Remember in prayer: Individuals and families fighting COVID-19 infection; residents and staff of Resthove, Windsor Manor and Pleasant View; medical workers, essential employees, school teachers & staff; Dan Brandon, Orville Goodenough, Janet Johnson, Omar Manchester, Joyce Mathew, Shirley Mills, Wayne Osborn, Youdelka Philippe (MSH), Cookee Shawver, Jean Temple, Dick Vandermyde, Michael Vegter, Jr.

Love one another!

Livestream Worship Services

Each Sunday at 10:15am from the church's Facebook group page: www.facebook.com/groups/firstpresmorrison. And after the service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCzIobAb6lcNXGA0cbuuVdg>

Bible Study In May, we will meet for Bible study on the 10th and 17th at Pleasant View Home at 9:30AM.

Deacons Are Here For You Do you have a physical or spiritual need? Our deacons want to help! Please feel free to reach out to a deacon!

Birthdays

05/08: Margaret Esse
 05/11: Lexie Laughlin
 05/12: Deb Zigler
 05/14: Lynn Knox

STAFF

Minister. Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg
 Office Manager. Stacie Baker
 Organist. Scott Vandermyde

SESSION ELDERS:

Lynn Knox
 Lexie Laughlin
 Jim Palmer
 Angela Reamer
 Tim Reynolds
 Scott Vandermyde
 Carol Wolf
 Deb Zigler
 Stacie Baker, Clerk

Deacons:

Mavis Best
 Junee Cortes
 Nancy Glazier
 Doris Robertson
 Jody Tucker

Prayer Requests

Have a prayer request? You can now email them to prayers.firstpresmorrison@gmail.com

Drive-Up Meal The next meal will be on May 26. Brats will be served. Meals will start being handed out at 5:00PM.

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is this the long way?" she asked.
 And the guide said "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning."
 But the young mother was happy,
 and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years.
 So she played with her children, she fed them and bathed them,
 and taught them how to tie their shoes and ride a bike and reminded them to feed the dog,
 and do their homework and brush their teeth.
 The sun shone on them, and the young Mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."
 Then the nights came, and the storms, and the path was sometimes dark,
 and the children shook with fear and cold,
 and the mother drew them close and covered them with her arms,
 and the children said, "Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come."
 And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead,
 and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary.
 But at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there."
 So the children climbed, and as they climbed they learned to weather the storms.
 And with this, she gave them strength to face the world. Year after year, she showed them compassion, understanding, hope, but most of all...unconditional love.
 And when they reached the top they said, "Mother, we would not have done it without you."
 The days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old and she became little and bent. But her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And the mother, when she lay down at night, looked up at the stars and said,
 "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned so much and are now passing these traits on to their children."
 And when the way became rough for her, they lifted her, and gave her their strength,
 just as she had given them hers.
 One day they came to a hill, and beyond the hill, they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.
 And mother said: "I have reached the end of my journey.
 And now I know the end is better than the beginning,
 for my children can walk with dignity and pride, with their heads held high,
 and so can their children after them."
 And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates."
 And they stood and watched her as she went on alone,
 and the gates closed after her.
 And they said: "We cannot see her, but she is with us still.
 A Mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living presence."
 —Anonymous

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