



"The Good Shepherd" by Corinne Vonaesch

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina gathers for
The Worship of God
Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 30, 2023

Another morning and I wake with thirst for the goodness I do not have. I walk out to the pond and all the way God has given us such beautiful lessons. Oh Lord, I was never a quick scholar but sulked and hunched over my books past the hour and the bell; grant me, in your mercy, a little more time. Love for the earth and love for you are having such a long conversation in my heart. Who knows what will finally happen or where I will be sent, yet already I have given a great many things away, expecting to be told to pack nothing, except the prayers which, with this thirst, I am slowly learning.

-*"Thirst"* by Mary Oliver

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Christ Candle Caleb Hix

Opening the Bible Lincoln Harrell

Prelude Baker Lawrimore *organist*

Opening Sentences Rev. Alan Sherouse

†Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

By Joan Stott

Caring Shepherd, you supply all our needs.

We celebrate God's generous care of us all.

Good Shepherd, you take us by the hand and lead us through the dark and fearful times in life.

We celebrate God's compassion and understanding.

Gracious Shepherd, your goodness and mercy nurtures and blesses us, and it enriches our soul.

As we share together in worship it restores and refreshes us. Amen.

†Hymn 99

"When Morning Gilds the Skies" LAUDES DOMINI

†Passing of the Peace

Words of Friendship Rev. Buck Cochran

Time for Children Rev. Amy Starr Russell

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

†Hymn

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" KINGSFOLD

*I Heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream,
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
And in that Light of life I'll walk, till traveling days are done.*

Prayers of God's People Rev. Courtney Willis

Gospel Lesson Rev. Chris Cherry

John 10:1-10

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 522

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" BRADBURY

Stewardship Prayer Penny Rowe *deacon*

Choral Offertory Sanctuary Choir

"Many Gifts, One Spirit" Words and Music by Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit. Many songs, one voice.

Many reasons, one promises. Many questions, one choice.

O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.

In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.

O, God, remind us we are not alone.

Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.

Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.

We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands.

*Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul
into the beauty of a rainbow. Give us life, Lord, make us whole.*

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

Choral Response Sanctuary Choir

"No Hands But Yours" text by St. Teresa of Avila, 16th Century; music by Jerome Williams

Christ has no body now on earth but yours; No hands but yours;

No feet but yours; Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

†Postlude Baker Lawrimore *organist*

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Beth Hardy Wise

on the occasion of her 40th birthday
by her family.