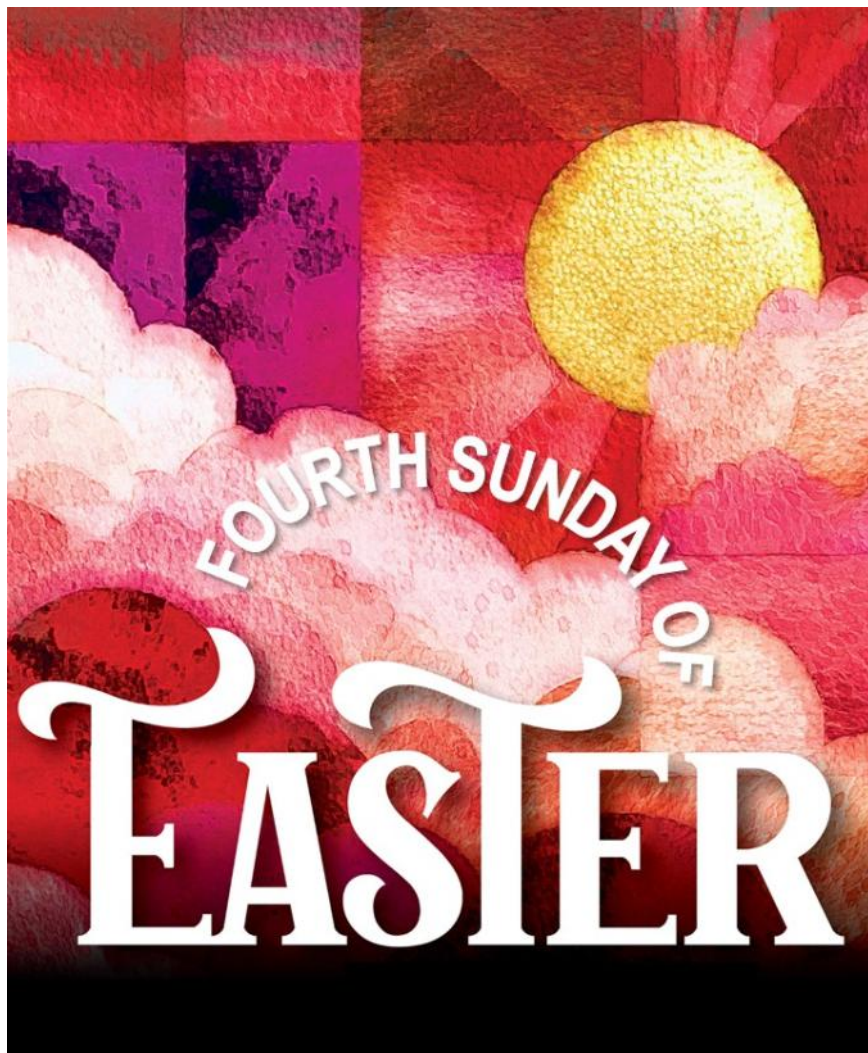


# First Presbyterian Church



210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061  
(478) 452-9394  
milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com  
www.fpcmilledgeville.org

*Inspired by Scripture, guided by Spirit, and nourished by our life together, we seek to be a reflection of God's radical grace. We believe God's love models a world without walls; therefore, we provide a safe and affirming home where you are welcomed exactly as you are. No matter the color or your skin, who you love, your gender, or the unique ways your mind and body work, you have a place here. Following the way of Jesus and empowering one another to grow in faith, we commit to feeding the hungry, caring for those in need, and working for justice and peace in our community and the world—living out our confidence in the promises of God.*

**April 26, 2026**  
**4th Sunday of Easter**

**PRELUDE**                      *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*      Charles Villiers Stanford

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Leader: Christ is risen.

Congregation: **He is risen indeed.**

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

**CHORAL INTROIT**      *God is calling through the whisper*                      GTG #410, vs. 1

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, all who seek rest, and all who come restless.

**People: We gather in hope, bringing all that we are.**

Leader: In stillness and in movement, God meets us here.

**People: We open ourselves to presence, to grace, to change.**

Leader: There is a voice that calls us, a path set before us.

**People: We come to listen, to follow, and to worship God.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Gracious and faithful God, you gather us from scattered lives into your presence. Quiet our anxious hearts and awaken us to your guiding voice among us. Form us into a people who trust your leading and walk in your ways together. Through Jesus Christ, our life and our hope. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 23**                      *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**God calls us not only to be comforted, but to be changed. Yet we resist being led, clinging to our own ways and trusting our own voices above God's. Still, the Shepherd seeks us, and Christ opens the way to new life. Trusting in that mercy, let us confess our sin before God and one another. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have preferred our own paths to your leading. We have trusted our own judgment more than your wisdom, and clung to control rather than resting in your care. We wander from your ways... in what we say and what we leave unsaid, in what we do and what we fail to do. We have not listened carefully for your voice, nor followed where you would lead us together. Forgive us, we pray. Restore us by your grace, gather us again as your people, and lead us in paths that give life. Through Jesus Christ, our shepherd and our way. Amen.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE** *God is calling through the voices*                      GTG #410, vs. 2

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

*Hear the good news! God's promise to forgive is sure and everlasting. Know you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Creator,  
and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end!  
Amen, amen.*

**\*THE PEACE**

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

*\*At this time young children may depart for the nursery.*

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today and gladly follow in the Way of Jesus Christ through whom we pray. Amen.**

**ANTHEM**

*Loving Shepherd*

J.S. Bach  
Laurie Peebles, flute  
William Humphrey, trumpet

*Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us,  
Keep us in thy tender care.  
And in thy mercy stay beside us,  
Safely thy lambs now gather,  
Bring us in faith together,  
And thy pastures now prepare.  
  
And when I walk with darkness around me,  
Thou art near and I will fear no ill.  
So with thy love and kindness surround me,  
Goodness and mercy bringing,  
From living water springing,  
Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.*

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 23

OT 501

GOSPEL

Luke 24:1-35

NT 90

**SERMON**

*"Sheepish Faith"*

**\*HYMN 187**

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in God, our shepherd, who leads us with mercy and truth.  
We trust in Jesus Christ, the gate to abundant life, who calls us and knows us.**

**We believe the Holy Spirit gathers and guides us as one people.**

**We confess that we are not our own, but belong to God and to one another.**

**We commit to follow where God leads, trusting in grace that goes before us.**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### MOMENT FOR HISTORY

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO OFFERING

God has led us, restored us, and set before us all that we need. In gratitude, we are invited to offer back a portion of what we have received. Our gifts become part of God's work—nurturing life, offering hope, and building community. As we give, we trust that God is still providing, still leading, still renewing. Let us offer our lives and our resources with thankful hearts.



### OFFERTORY

*The Shepherds' Farewell*

Hector Berlioz  
arr. Noel Rawsthorne

### \*DOXOLOGY

***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!***

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Generous God, receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your care. Use them to bring life where there is need, and hope where there is uncertainty. Shape us, as we give, into a people who follow your way with open hands. Through Christ, who leads us into abundant life. Amen.**

## BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN 803

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

### \*CHORAL BLESSING *God is calling through the music*

GTG #410, vs. 3

### \*POSTLUDE

*Gentle Shepherd*

William J. Gaither  
arr. Lani Smith

*As the postlude begins, you are invited to depart for fellowship or remain seated in prayerful reflection as the music sends us forth into the world.*

*Acknowledgments: All music used by permission. CCLI License # 2910879 and streaming license # 23024105.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sandwich Squad meets today after service to prepare lunch packs for the community fridge at Midway Hills Primary. Please bring your contributions of sandwich supplies, baggies, chips, fruit, and drinks for this monthly service opportunity.
- Sunday, May 3 the bicentennial committee will present the playlet written by Libby Lounsbury for the 2001 anniversary celebrations. Pioneer garb is encouraged to mark this special occasion.
- Bicentennial posters are available in the church office. Come take a couple to put up at your office, nearby park, or friendly businesses around town.
- Bicentennial Ornaments are available for sale before worship or in the Church Office. The cost is 1 for \$15 or 2 for \$25. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support the Bicentennial celebration in 2026.
- The flower calendar is now on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. Please consider honoring or remembering someone with the gift of flowers for the sanctuary. Contact Becky (478-457-5349) for more information.

### **THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: April 26-May 3**

Sunday	9:45	Adult Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship Service
	12:00	Sandwich Squad
	1:30	Bicentennial Play Practice
Monday	7:00	PATH/ORC All Recovery
Tuesday	9:30	Food Pantry
	12:00	Kiwanis
Wednesday	7:30	NA Meeting
	10:00	Have a Mug with Mari
	6:30	Potluck and Study
Thursday	7:30	NA Meeting
Saturday	3:30	Bicentennial Play Practice
	7:30	NA Meeting
Sunday	9:45	Adult Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship Service w/ communion
	12:00	Bicentennial play full performance
	1:00	PFLAG Family Potluck

# WORSHIP with us

Join us in-person or online  
on [Facebook Live](#) every week.

**9:45 AM Sunday School Class** (meets in the Betty Newton Campbell parlor), doing an intensive study of the Book of Jeremiah. Please contact Joel Burns [joelburns@gmail.com](mailto:joelburns@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending via Zoom.

**Sunday: 9:45 AM Fellowship Sunday School Class** (meets in small room next to office at end of hall), studying *Questions of Faith: A Practical Guide to Christian Faith* by Nicky Gumbel.

**Sunday: 10:15AM Children's Sunday School Class**, singing, crafts and stories, (meeting in the Craft Room upstairs)

**Sunday: 12:00PM Youth Group** (Youth Room)

**Wednesday: 6:30PM Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study**  
- we are studying *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America* by Ted V. Foote and P. Alex Thornburg, (meeting in the Fellowship Hall).

# Thank you VOLUNTEERS!

### Greeters

Apr. 26: Millie Murphy & Margaret Ivester  
May 3: Bradleys & Susan McGill

### Nursery Volunteers

Apr. 26: Laurie Peebles/Anne Smart  
May 3: Margaret Ivester/Gloria Burns

### Liturgists

Apr. 26: Glory Nwankonta  
May 3: Glory Nwankonta

### Communion

May 3: Andrew Allen, Bill Werts, Anne Smart, Charles Burrell



**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS

**Church Staff**

**Pastor**, Rev. Mari Turner (in office every Wednesday) [revmariturner@gmail.com](mailto:revmariturner@gmail.com)

**Children & Youth**, vacant

**Admin. Asst.**, Jessica McQuain

**Music Director**, Dr. Jennifer Flory, [jennifer.flory@gcsu.edu](mailto:jennifer.flory@gcsu.edu)

**Organist**, Kate Phillips

**Treasurer**, Joel Burns

**Church Phone** (478) 452-9394, Cell (478) 443-5203

**Email**: [milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com](mailto:milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

9am ~ 1pm Mon-Thur.





*Lord, hear our prayers*

**CONDOLENCES:**

Sunda Coleman on the loss of her son, Chris Pearson  
Carpenter family on the loss of Nan Carpenter

**CHURCH FAMILY:**

Min Lindsay, anticipating surgery  
Eleanor Naber-Allen, daughter of Andrew and Elise, at home  
Sherry Henry, recovering in Atlanta  
Harry Beck, ongoing health concerns  
Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns  
Ellen Thompson, waiting on two hip replacements

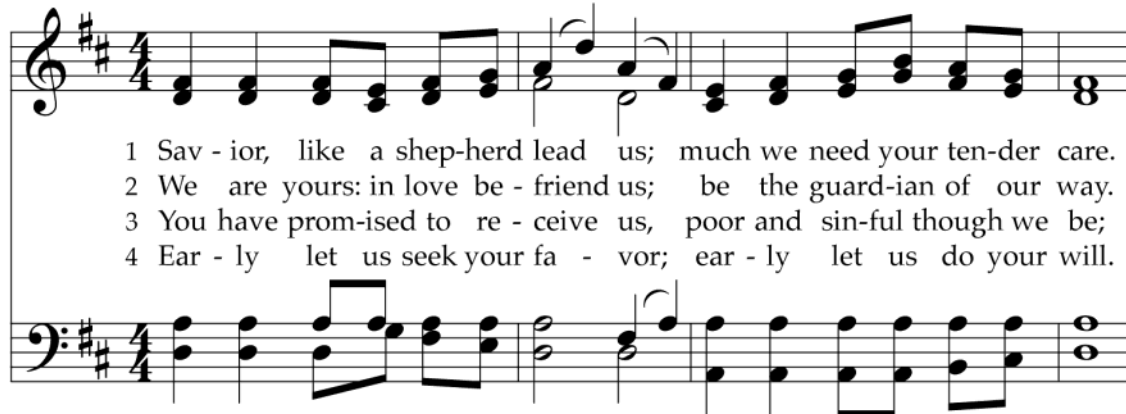
**EXTENDED FAMILY:**

Destiny Akins, community member, healing  
Darryl Allen, Andrew Allen's father, ongoing health concerns  
Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues  
Kathie Bishop, Mari Turner's mother, in memory care  
Bob Bishop, Mari Turner's father, in the hospital  
Kandace Allen Bivins, friend of Margaret Ivester, heart attack  
Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer  
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns  
Charles Morgan, Jennifer Flory's father, ongoing health concerns  
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, health issues—at Carlyle House in Macon  
John J. Murphy, Kathy Carroll's father, recovering from kidney operation  
Renee Pearson, Sunda Coleman's daughter-in-law, at home with health concerns  
Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis  
Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards' son-in-law, ongoing health concerns  
Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments  
Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care  
Wayne Woodward, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

**IN ASSISTED LIVING:**

Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place  
Laura King, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive  
Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place  
Runette Pounds, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place  
Louise Sallstrom, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive  
Suzy Smith, The Oaks Peake, 400 Foster Rd., A2, Macon, GA 31210  
Frankie Holder, Pruitt Health-Marietta, 50 Saine Dr. SW-Rm 215, Marietta, GA 30008

# Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187



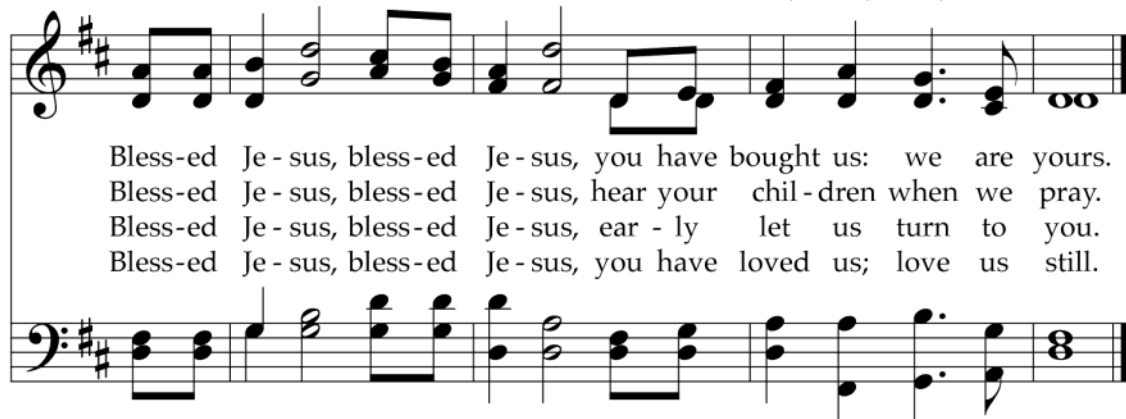
1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.  
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.  
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.  
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a - stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

# God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D) (G)  
 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>

1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and  
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and  
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D)  
 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Cm A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth  
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in  
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's

(G) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (A)  
 A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,  
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,  
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (G) (A) (D) (G)  
 E<sup>b</sup> Cm Gm A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>

would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,  
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened  
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures

(D) (G) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (D) (A) (D)  
 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.  
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.  
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

# My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)

1 My shep-herd will sup- ply my need; Je - ho - vah is his name.  
 2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;  
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

In pas - tures fresh he makes me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.  
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.  
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

He brings my wan - dering spir - it back when I for - sake his ways,  
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;  
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;

and leads me, for his mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows; your oil a - noints my head.  
 no more a strang - er, or a guest, but like a child at home.

The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.