

THE LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are a family of faith wrapping our arms around God's world

and making Jesus Christ a way of life

through **worship**, as we praise and glorify God;

through **study**, as we listen for God's Word in body, mind and spirit;

through **mission**, as we embody God's love in service to the world;

through **giving**, as we express gratitude to God;

through **fellowship**, as we love and care for one another.



“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me...”

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 22, 2018

10:15AM

*“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.”*
Psalm 23:4

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE

Sonata in E Major, K. 380

Domenico Scarlatti

WELCOME

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

INTROIT

Cantad al Señor (O Sing to the Lord)

Brazilian Folk Song

Lamington Children's Choir

Bess Ploener, ukelele

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Ann Silk

Leader: Good News! God is with us! Let us rejoice together in hope.

People: **God's wonders never cease for those who have eyes to see!**

Leader: In faith, we are led from doubt to wonder, from despair to assurance,
from darkness to light!

People: **With one voice, let us sing the praises of our God who surprises us with joy.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

* GATHERING HYMN 472

“O Sing to the Lord”

Brazilian folk melody

* INVITATION TO CONFESSON

* PRAYER OF CONFESSON (*unison*)

Good Shepherd,
we take your care for granted.
In the midst of your many blessings,
we complain of not having enough.
In the presence of danger,
we fail to trust your abiding love.
When you set a table before us,
we turn aside from you.
Call us back into your care
and help us trust your caring presence,
that our actions may proclaim your truth.

* KYRIE

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (Psalm 23)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us
all the days of our lives.
God forgives our failures and calls us back
into the flock.
Alleluia! Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn 298)

IN BABILON

**For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
We would gladly trust God's Word;
And our lives reflect thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 23

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children through 7th Grade are excused to go with their teachers to church school.)

ANTHEM

Messiah, HWV 56

George Frideric Handel

Job 19:25, 26;
1 Corinthians 15:20

No. 45 Air "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"

Katie Cloys, soloist

No. 46 Chorus "Since By Man Came Death"

1 Corinthians 15:21

SECOND READING

John 10:11-18

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Saved By the Shepherd"

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* HYMN 172

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

RESIGNATION

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *The Study Catechism*)

What do you believe
when you confess your faith in “God the Father Almighty”?
**That God is a God of love,
and that God’s love is powerful beyond measure.**

What do you affirm
when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as “our Lord”?
**That having been raised from the dead
he reigns with compassion and justice
over all things in heaven and on earth,
especially over those who confess him by faith;
and that by loving and serving him above all else,
we give glory and honor to God.**

What do you believe
when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?
**That apart from the Holy Spirit,
our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.
The Holy Spirit is the personal bond
by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself,
the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ,
and the comforter who leads us to repentance,
empowering us to live in Christ’s service.**

What do you affirm
when you speak of “the life everlasting”?
**That communion with Jesus Christ
is eternal life itself.
In him we were chosen
before the foundation of the world.
By him the eternal covenant with Israel
was taken up, embodied, and fulfilled.
To him we are joined by the Holy Spirit through faith,
and adopted as children,
the sons and daughters of God.
Through him we are raised from death to new life.
For him we shall live to all eternity.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Pièce sans titre in E Major

Jean-Philippe Rameau

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 592)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* SENDING HYMN 387

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Messiah, HWV 56

G. F. Handel

No. 47 Recitative "Behold, I Tell You a Mystery"

1 Corinthians 15:51, 52

No. 48 Air "The Trumpet Shall Sound"

1 Corinthians 15: 52, 53

Andrew Stack, soloist

* *All who are able please stand*

Today's Worship Notes

As children, many of us learned the King James Version of the Twenty-Third Psalm by heart. It continues to be one of the most beloved passages of scripture. Yet, heart-knowledge is not the same as head-knowledge. Sometimes the heart can get in the way of the head. While the King James version of Psalm 23 is incomparable poetry, that 400-year-old translation is inaccurate in several important respects. Looking at the Shepherd Psalm with fresh eyes, in the NRSV (a translation that closely follows the original Hebrew), the spiritual crisis faced by the psalm's author suddenly becomes clear. You'll discover some new insights that will make this psalm more meaningful for you than ever before.

DEACONS: Hunter Lewis and Julie Murray

LITURGIST: Ann Silk

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Alison & Fred Paine

Welcome to Lamington: If you are a guest, please fill out the information card in the pew and return it in the offering plate or to the pastor or usher at the end of the service. The church office hours are Monday-Friday from 10:00AM-3:00PM, phone: (908) 572-7013, email: lamingtonchurch@gmail.com. If you have a pastoral emergency and need assistance immediately, please contact Pastor Carl Wilton at (908) 910-5360.

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

James Goldsworthy, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Regina Morris, OFFICE MANAGER

Bess Ploener, DIRECTOR OF HANDBELLS & ALTO SECTION LEADER

Katie Cloys, SOPRANO SECTION LEADER

John Cloys, TENOR SECTION LEADER

Andrew Stack, BASS SECTION LEADER

Mary Ann Scott and Susan Scott, SUNDAY NURSERY CARE

Lori Larsen, CHURCH TREASURER (*volunteer*)