

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday, April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Ron Bloor

OPENING SENTENCES

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Together we call our family to worship in this way:
[Psalm 23 from The Message]

God, my shepherd!
I don't need a thing.
You have bedded me down in lush meadows,
you find me quiet pools to drink from.
True to your word,
you let me catch my breath
and send me in the right direction.
⁴ Even when the way goes through
Death Valley,
I'm not afraid
when you walk at my side.
Your trusty shepherd's crook
makes me feel secure.
⁵ You serve me a six-course dinner
right in front of my enemies.
You revive my drooping head;
my cup brims with blessing.
⁶ Your beauty and love chase after me
every day of my life.
I'm back home in the house of God
for the rest of my life.

Calling on the name of the Lord, let us worship God!
Let us worship God!

GATHERING PRAYER

**God of abundant life and gentle mercy,
you are our shepherd; we shall not want.
You call us by name, gather us into your fold,
and lead us through the gate of your Son,
who came that we might have life, and have it
abundantly.**

**Draw us together as your Easter people,
devoted to teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread,
and the prayers,**

**so that all who enter here may find welcome,
compassion, and shared joy.**

**By your Spirit, open our ears to your voice
and tune our hearts to your Word
as you gather us now for worship
and fill this place with resurrection joy.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ,
our risen Lord, and our Shepherd, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN

“Take My Life”

Hymn #697

1 Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world, you called us by name and pledged your steadfast love. But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold. You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves. Christ laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride.

(And now, in this holy silence, those sins that are ours.)

Forgive us, O God. Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love that we may enter your Beloved Community and find restoration for our souls, reconciliation with our enemies and the glory of abiding with you forevermore. Amen

GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be to the Father" Hymn #581

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end, Amen."

ANTHEM "Lead Me to the Rock" Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE (NRSV UPDATED EDITION)

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47	p.91, NT
Second Reading	
1 Peter 2:19-25	p.184, NT
Gospel Reading	
John 10:1-10	p. 79, NT

Acts 2:42-47 p.91, NT

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Life among the Believers

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

1 Peter 2:19-25 p.184, NT

¹⁹ For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 10:1-10 p. 79, NT

Jesus the Good Shepherd

10 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. 7 So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Way to Heaven’s Gate” Rick Mills

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle’s Creed)

Hymnal p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (with the Lord’s Prayer)

Hymnal p.35

Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in

heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING MUSIC

Tommy Clay, Jr.

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn #606

“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.”

(Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus.)

ALL: In Christ’s name we thank you. Amen

HYMN

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Hymn #724

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle;
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer
and shield my soul from sin.

3 O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,

to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my friend.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “Because He Lives”

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future.
And life is worth the living just because He lives

POSTLUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Details on our website, Facebook,
Realm & 386-385-3040.)**

Church Activities

Small Groups-Sunday 9:15 am; Tues. 3:00 pm; Wed. 3:30 pm.

Presbyterian Women-Circles meet every 2nd Tuesday,
10:30am & 6:30pm.

Social Connections-Thurs. 1pm in Zoom Rm. Contact
Shaaron Kohl 864-378-7032.

Quilting Group-Friday's at 10:00 in the Zoom Room,
Welcoming new members.

Outreach Ministries

Bread of Life- April needs are Bottled Water, Barbeque Sauce,
Ziploc sandwich bags.

Shower Ministry-Thurs. from 2-6pm

PC3 Ministry-Monday 2-6pm

Meridian/Grace Market Place-Thurs. 2-4pm in the Bartram
Rm a representative for assistance.

CDC (Chemical Dependency Counseling)-Mon. 8-12; Tues.
8-6, Wed. 8-6, Sat. 8-6.

Church Calendar

4-25	Kiwanis/Bass	5:00am	Parking
4-24-26	Bartram	9:00am	WH/Parking
5-16	Private Event	8:00am	WH
5-22-24	Blue Crab	8:00am	Parking

Financial Report

2026 Financial Report/Operating Budget through March 31st

<u>Total Received</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
\$56,914	\$53,628	\$3,286

The Brick Opportunity *to build a space rooted in legacy, community, and faith, one brick at a time. (#31)* For more details go to our website fpcpalatka.com.