

**First
Presbyterian
Church** IN
VICTOR
WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street
Victor, NY 14564
585-924-2289
www.victorpres.org

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Jimmy Reader
& Rev. Joy Bergfalk
Organist Ayn Patrowicz

Order of Worship
4th Sunday of Easter
***Please stand if you are able.**

April 30, 2023, 10am

Prelude "The Lord's My Shepherd" arr. by Don Hustad

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine
enemies: thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Opening Hymn No. 482** "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

***Invocation**

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a
person endures pain while suffering unjustly. 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. 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.

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

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. 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. For
you were going astray like sheep, but now you have
returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess that we are often stubborn like sheep, and instead of following you, we take off on our own paths, thinking that you cannot take care of our life situations, or that we know better than you. And, we know, all too well, where these detours take us, and it's not in green pastures or beside still waters. We confess that we often prefer our will to your will, and like sheep, get lost. Give us the courage to follow you, when you rescue us and bring us back to the fold. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing the Peace**

Children's Time

Unison Prayer for Illumination

Many words have already been sung and spoken. May the words of this moment and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable and life giving to all of us. Amen.

Scripture Reading

John 10:1-21

“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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (cont.)

Scripture Reading (cont.)

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Again the Jews were divided because of these words. Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?” Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

Sermon

“Of Shepherds, and Sheep and Sheep Dogs”

***Hymn of Response**

“He Leadeth Me”

***Offering Doxology**

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

We joyfully give back to you our time, treasures, and talents. Thank you for your many blessings that enrich our daily lives. Use all that we have and are to bring your unconditional love to this world! Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Blessing of the Blankets

***Closing Song No. 276**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Low in the Grave He Lay” arr. by Cindy Berry

Thank you to these members who are helping with worship today-

AV: Steve Simpson

Liturgist: Larry Teel

Fellowship: Linda Smith



**Upcoming Church & Community events to add to your calendars:
*details on each event in your eNews***

Church Calendar

Sunday, April 30

10 am	Sunday Worship w/Youth Group
11:15 am	Fellowship Hour & Choir Practice
7:30 pm	AA & Al-Anon meetings

Tuesday, May 2

10 am	Free Panera
7 pm	Bridge Class

Wednesday, May 3

7 pm	VFFC Board Meeting
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Youth Sunday School

Sunday School program for our youth (**grades 6 and up**) that will meet twice a month during service in the youth room.

All youth are invited including friends. Youth can be in the sanctuary for the beginning of the service, then gather in the youth room.

Upcoming meeting dates:

>*Today, April 30

>May 7 & 21



After Church Learning, Growth, and Healing

Join us in praying John 5:1-14, "Do You Want to be Healed?" We will explore what healing is all about and gather ideas and suggestions as we seek to answer this question for our church family and community.

Jimmy & Joy preach from the lectionary each Sunday.

These are the passages for today:

Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10



****Items VFFC currently need are**:**

Cereal & pasta-top requests

Body soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes

Dish soap-small ones

Laundry soap- small ones

Paper towels, Tissues

Baby wipes

(Bin in the Welcome Center to collect your donations)

**The VFFC is also looking for churches or groups to clean the Cupboard once a month. Your group would come in on a Saturday and do general cleaning which usually takes a group of 3-4 an hour. The list of chores and supplies are at the Cupboard. Ideally, we'd like you to sign up for one Saturday two different months. It's been difficult to find groups to do this easy task. If any on your congregation is looking for an opportunity to serve the community in this way, please give the food cupboard a call!



Go to the link below or scan the QR code above to read all about what is happening with our local mission Family Promise!

<http://victorpres.org/family-promise-oc-news-april-2023/>



Thank you for the gift of your presence here this morning. We are so glad you have chosen to spend this time in this space. Please know you are invited to participate in any way that is most helpful for you. You are not expected to announce your presence, but you are most welcome to reach out to anyone here. You are invited to fellowship following worship downstairs in Corey Hall and we would love to share a coffee and a chat. If you would like to have us reach out to you in the days ahead, please fill out the Visitor Card in the pew and drop it in the Offering plate or use the QR code below.

If you are here with children, that is wonderful, and they are welcome too. Sunday School is offered during the worship service for youth ages 4 through grade 6, following the Children's Time. Youth Group Sunday School is also offered for children in 6th grade and up every other Sunday. See our calendar for the schedule. You are welcome to join your child in the class, have your child remain with you during the service, or send them off to class. The Infant Care Room, equipped so users can hear and watch the service, is located at the top of the eastern stairs in the back of the sanctuary.

It is good to have you here. Welcome.

**Interested in becoming a member?
Please call or email one of our pastors.**

**Pastor Jimmy: 585-315-9241, Pastor Joy: 585-315-7826
pastor@victorpres.org**

