

Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

I do not think the measure of a civilization is how tall its buildings of concrete are,
but rather how well its people have learned to relate to their environment and fellow man.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Good shepherd, walk beside me through the joy and trouble of this day,
and lead me in right paths for your name's sake. Amen*

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Jimmy Chapman

*INTROIT #724

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" (v.1)

Bode, 1866

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He knows us, and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

*HYMN #724

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" (v.2-4)

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God's deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore, let us confess our sin first silently then with the Unison Prayer of Confession.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all Creation, we come to you in a moment of personal and corporate confession. We participate in a system which is exploitative and violent and which separates humanity from the rest of Creation. By acts of omission and commission we cause harm to others. At times

we are guilty of complicity, passivity and denial, at other times of abuses of power. We hear the cries of both our fellow humans, who are already living in the midst of extreme poverty and hunger, and the cries of all Creation. We know we bear responsibility for the pain of both, and we know the impact one has on the other. We confess our complicity in the plight of all of your Creation, and beg your forgiveness and mercy, that we may do better to follow the way of you who creates. Amen

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. This is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

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. Amen.

#580

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

Bibles, p.474/LG. p.617

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN #39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Chisholm, 1923

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 10:11-21

Bibles, p.97/LG. p.126

The Word of God, for the People of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Lead & Follow – Sheep or Shepherd"

Claudia Morgan-Gray

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things. We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin. We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of Earth, a human

being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation. This, we believe.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Selected

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sending

*HYMN #14

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (v.1-4)

Pierpoint, 1864

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #14

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (v.5)

POSTLUDE

Selected

(* Those who are able may stand.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

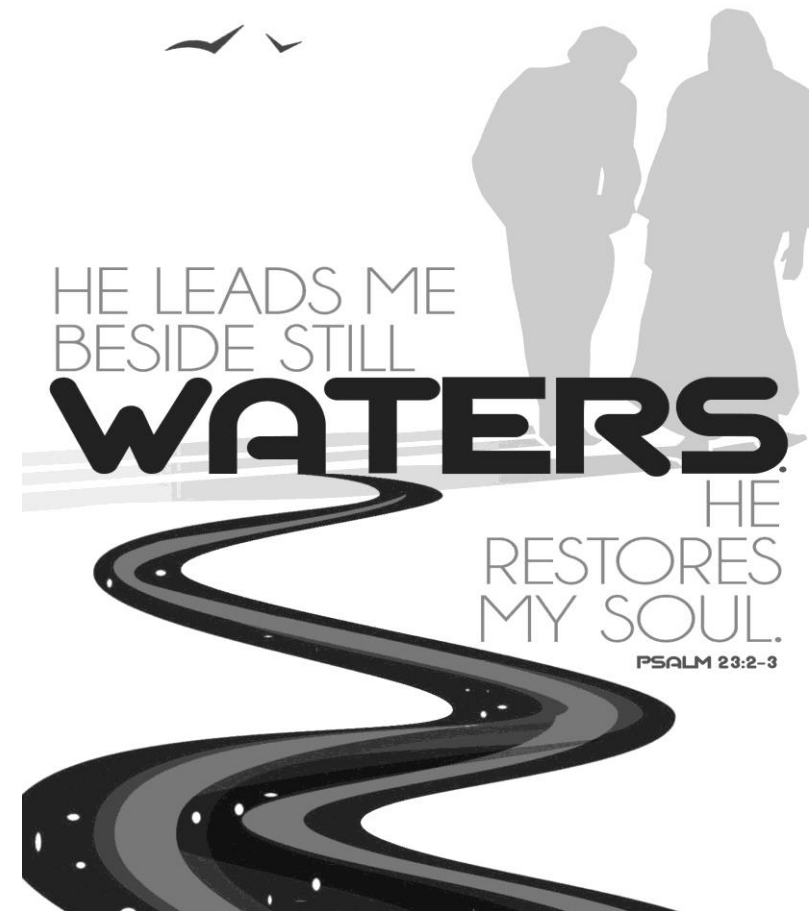
Claudia Morgan-Gray is an active member and Ruling Elder in the First Presbyterian Church, Henderson. Claudia grew up in the Presbyterian Church of Farmington New Mexico and had her membership transferred to Henderson when she rejoined the faith. Claudia participates in several of the church committees (Fellowship, Outreach, Christian Education, Personnel, Communications and Mission) and outreach programs (Meals on Wheels, Adopt-a-Block, Children’s Advocacy Center). Claudia, originally from New Mexico, moved to East Texas from Austin almost 16 years ago when she married a local, Weldon R. Gray. In Austin, Claudia worked in politics and then in legislative advocacy. In Henderson, she owned and operated Claudia’s Café & Catering for 10 years before retiring 5 years ago.

This week’s prayers and concerns: Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Bob Schauwecker, Patsy Snelgrove, Billy Tapley, and Sue Williams.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon. 04/23

Pipeline Deadline



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We're on FaceBook!

