

WELCOME TO
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF EAST HAMPTON



-SERVICE OF THE WORD-

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

PASTOR'S WELCOME



Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of East Hampton – an active worshipping community since 1648. While the world has changed greatly in our 376 year history, this community of faith has had the same mission since day one: to love God and our neighbor. We embody this mission through faith in action. Through feeding programs, bible studies, youth events, and service trips – we create space for God to work among us. We believe that who you are is a part of what you believe. That faith is a journey, not a destination. And that asking questions, having doubts, and being curious is part of living an authentic faith. God's call requires our full self: heart, soul, body, and mind.

I joined FPCEH as its pastor in January 2024. As a new resident of the East End, I've enjoyed soaking in the local culture and history. I'm a fan of gardening, movies, music, and my wife Alyson. When she isn't playing with our dog Sam, she serves as an oncology nurse. I look forward to getting to know everyone who comes through our doors.

Church Staff

The Rev. Jon D. Rodriguez, *Minister*

Jane Hastay, *Director of Music*

June Lester, *Church Administrator*

The Rev. Dr. John Ames. & The Rev. Dr. Fred Schulz,
Pastors Emeriti

120 Main Street, East Hampton, NY 11937
fpceh.org

Gathering in God's Name

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Pastor: Jesus said: I am the good shepherd.

People: Christ lays down his life for the sheep.

Pastor: In the name of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Let us worship God.

(* Please rise in body or in spirit. For hymns, stand when the choir stands.)

* HYMN 187

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us of our sins. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

(Silence for personal reflection)

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Franz Schubert

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, thanks be to God.

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria (Taizé)



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

SUMMARY OF GOD'S LAW

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

* GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is

"the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone."

¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:11-18

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own

accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

SERMON

Claimed By Love

Responding to God with Thanksgiving

* HYMN 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St. Columba

Ordination & Installation of Officers

PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS-ELECT

Elders

Barbara Borsack

David Cataletto

Wendy Mott

Bruce Siska

Deacons

Leslie Clarke

Greg Eberhart

Heddie Edwards

Gabbie Miller

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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 on 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

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of

what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do, and I will.**

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
I will.

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
I will.

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
I will.

Elders: Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

Deacons: Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
I will.

QUESTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church accept these new officers as deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ. If so, please respond, "We do." **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as together with the other members of session as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? If so, please respond, "We do." **We do.**

ORDINATION PRAYER AND DECLARATION

(Previously ordained Elders and Deacons are invited forward to lay hands on those being ordained)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: ...in your mercy,

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Draw the circle,
Draw the circle wide,
No one stands alone,
We'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle,
Draw the circle wide.*

Draw the Circle Wide

*Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still,
Let this be our song
No one stands alone!*

Mark A. Mill

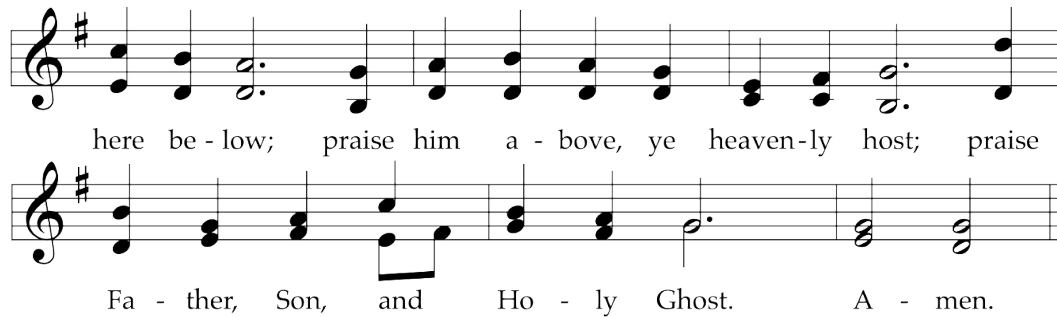
*Standing side by side,
In your sadness
and in your grief,
And when the pain it
seems that there is no
relief, We will hold
you until the storms
subsides.*

* DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures



here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

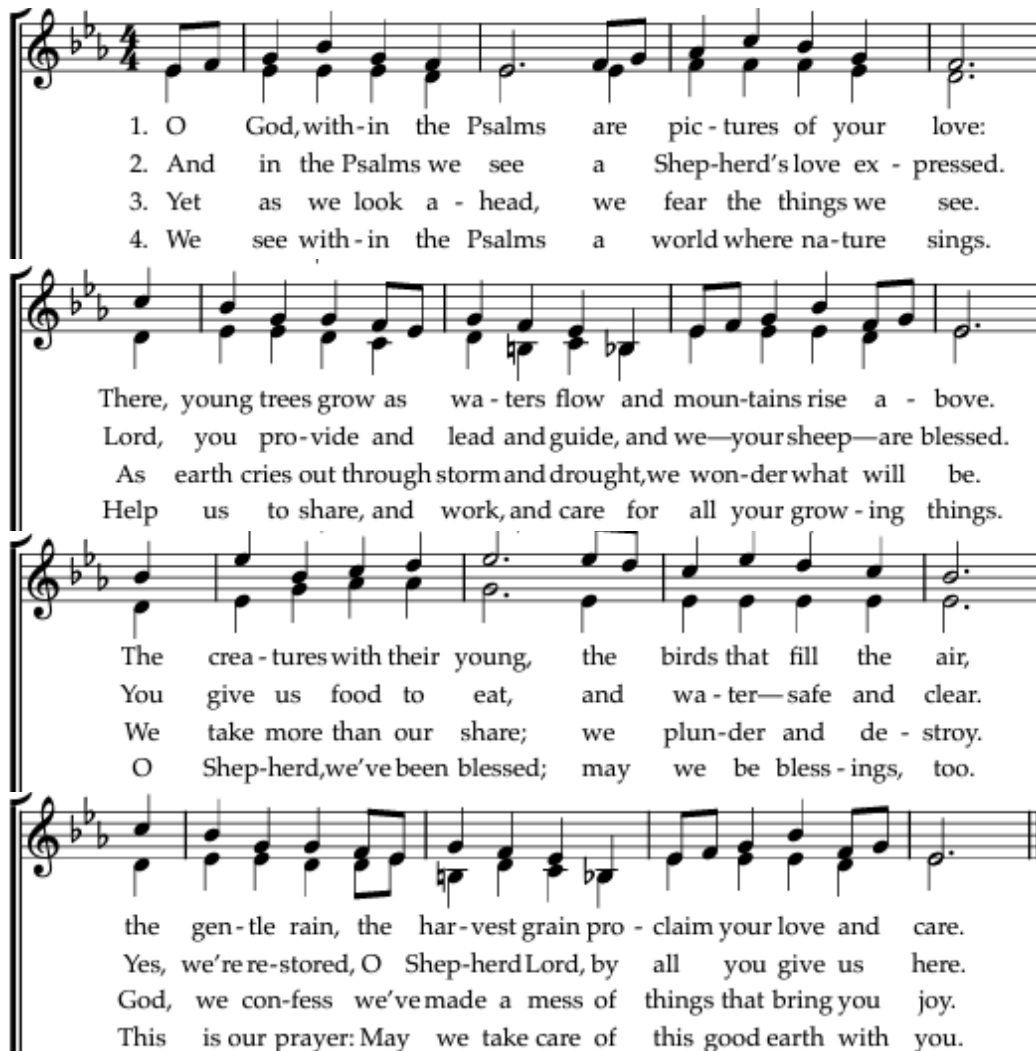
*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; that they may be a living and holy sacrifice, to the glory of your name. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

*** HYMN**

O God Within the Psalms

Kingsfold



1. O God, with-in the Psalms are pic - tures of your love:
2. And in the Psalms we see a Shep-herd's love ex - pressed.
3. Yet as we look a - head, we fear the things we see.
4. We see with - in the Psalms a world where na - ture sings.

There, young trees grow as wa - ters flow and moun-tains rise a - bove.
Lord, you pro-vide and lead and guide, and we—your sheep—are blessed.
As earth cries out through storm and drought, we won-der what will be.
Help us to share, and work, and care for all your grow - ing things.

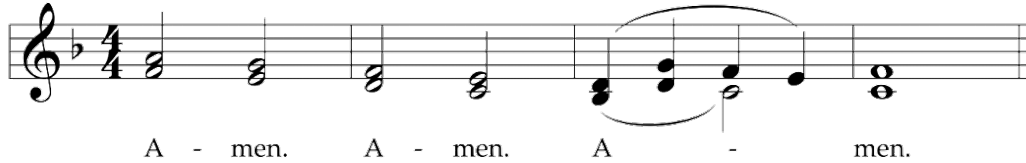
The crea - tures with their young, the birds that fill the air,
You give us food to eat, and wa - ter—safe and clear.
We take more than our share; we plun-der and de - stroy.
O Shep-herd, we've been blessed; may we be bless - ings, too.

the gen - tle rain, the har - vest grain pro - claim your love and care.
Yes, we're re - stored, O Shep-herd Lord, by all you give us here.
God, we con - fess we've made a mess of things that bring you joy.
This is our prayer: May we take care of this good earth with you.

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Danish Amen



POSTLUDE

Worship Leaders

Minister: The Rev. Jon D. Rodriguez
Music: Jane Hastay, Chancel Choir
Elder of the Month: Andrea Cooper
Deacon of the Month: Christine Martin
Reader: Henry Cooper
Ushers: Victor & Lois Vecchio, Fred & Gayle Lester

Session

Moderator: The Rev. Jon D. Rodriguez
Clerk: Mary Siska
Members: Class of 2024: Kim Borsack, David Filer, Michelle Grant, Paul Vogel; *Class of 2025:* Andrea Cooper, Barbara D'Andrea, Harriet Edwards, Pember Edwards; *Class of 2026:* Bruce Siska, Barbara Borsack, David Cataletto, Wendy Mott

Board of Deacons

Co-Moderators: Nancy Pearson & Joy Anne Dixon
Members: Class of 2024: Kristine Eberhart, Christine Martin, Nancy Pearson; *Class of 2025:* Fran Chapman, Joy Anne Dixon, Suzanne Nicoletti, Carol Sigler; *Class of 2026:* Greg Eberhart, Gabby Miller, Heddie Edwards, Leslie Clarke

The Life of the Church

Please pray for the following friends: Lee Andrews, Ian Birla, Liz Dayton, Heddie Edwards, Robert Fariel, Gordon Grant, Kayla Kearney, Dana Lester, Gus Lockwood, Jake Ogden, Bill Stafford, Jane Talmage, Jeff Yusko, Our Sister Church in Guines, Cuba and their pastor & his family.

A **New Member's Class** will be held in the Session House following worship today. This class is for anyone who wants to learn more about the church's history, beliefs, and mission. Please RSVP to Pastor Jon (jdr@fpceh.org) to reserve your spot and ensure there is enough food for everyone.

A **Concert celebrating Spring + Earth Day** will take place in the sanctuary on today at 3pm. The program will be performed by pianist Beyza Yazgan, and will include a stunning 3-part work by composer Brian Field called "Three Passions for a Tortured Planet." The program will also include repertoire to celebrate Spring and Earth Day, including "Native Planting Song" by Jean Sibelius, "Woodlark" by Oliver Messiaen, "Reflections in the Water" by Claude Debussy, and more. Not only will the concert be a thrilling performance by our young virtuoso guest pianist, but it will be a benefit to raise money for Matthew Lester's pollinator garden at the Farm Museum. We hope to raise funds and recruit volunteers to help the garden thrive.

East Hampton Food Pantry serves our community by collecting food and distributing it to those in need. This week's item of the week is canned meat.

Pastor Jon's **Service of Installation** as the church's twenty-second minister will be held in the sanctuary on May 5 at 3pm. Guests from throughout the presbytery and beyond will join. The service will be followed by a meal and reception in the Session House. If you plan to attend the reception, please RSVP to the church office by May 1st.

This Week at FPC

Sunday, April 21

10 am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15 | Session House – New Members Class
3 pm | Earth Day Concert - Sanctuary
4 pm | Porch Musicians – Session House

Wednesday, April 24

Thursday, April 25

12:30 pm | Al-Anon – Session House
3:30 pm | Chancel Choir rehearsal

Monday, April 22

9 am | Prayer Group – Session House
12:30 | Al-Anon – Session House

Friday, April 26

Tuesday, April 23

7:30 am | Breakfast Club – John Papas
1 pm | Prayer Shawl Knitting Group – Off Site
(contact admin@fpceh.org for more information)

Saturday, April 27

About the Artist



Kelly Latimore (b. 1986). I began painting icons in 2010 while I was a member of the Common Friars from 2009-2013. Our collective work was about being more connected: to ourselves, each other, our surrounding community, and the land. This manifested itself as a place called “The Good Earth Farm” where we held weekly services and meals and grew produce for our community and local food pantries. I had always been making art, but during this time my friend and priest Tom suggested I try my hand at Iconography. I poured over the traditional icons and the novice iconographer’s work; I started tracing. I traced over the lines of Christ, the saints, and biblical scenes for months until I began contemplating new icons based on our community’s life, work, and mission. As we were growing food for our neighbors and wanting to maintain a right

relationship with the earth, my fellow friar and farmer, Paul often posed the question, “how do we become people who, in Jesus’s words, ‘consider the lilies of the field’?”

This became the focus of my first original icon entitled: “Christ: Consider the Lilies”. It was an interesting first attempt. My lines were shaky, and Jesus almost seems surprised that the lilies are in his hands. However, the community embraced the image because it was a part of our common experience. This showed me how art can be a placeholder for community’s thought, prayer, and action.

Iconography has since become a practice of more considerations: of color and light, of brush stroke and form, symbol and meaning. I am trying to become a better painter.

I do not wish to approach Iconography as an art form that simply follows an inherited tradition, knowledge, and practice. I want it to be a ‘holy pondering’, meditation, and process that potentially brings about a new way of seeing for the viewer and me. What is the artwork in our churches and communities for? Who are the saints that are among us here and now? Where is Christ present right in our own backyards?

My hope is that these icons can do what all art can potentially do, which is, to create more dialogue. By transcending our biases, listening, and having inner silence about our convictions, our inherited traditions, or our favorite ideas we can become open to the patterns of work, knowledge and experience we may not have seen in the other or buried in ourselves. The other may have something to teach us about who God is, the world we live in, and who are our neighbors. This is the real work of being human and of art. Being more present.

It is an ongoing journey of spirituality, craft, and considering lilies.

Excerpt – The Artist’s Website | kellylatimoreicons.com

Cover Art | Latimore, Kelly. Good Shepherd, from Art in the Christian Tradition