



**Erwin Presbyterian Church**

Fourth Sunday of Easter \* April 21, 2024 \* 11:00 a.m.

105 N. Elm Ave., Erwin, TN 37650 \* 423-743-3431\*

[erwinpresbyterianchurch.com](http://erwinpresbyterianchurch.com)

**Prelude**  
Ethan Thomas, organist

*Green Pastures*

arr. George Blake

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

**Introit**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Green Hymnbook #793

**\* Call to Worship (based on Psalm 23)**

David Shults

Leader: Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

**All: He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.**

Leader: Even though we walk through dark valleys,  
even though we are fearful and in need of comfort.

**All: Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy;  
we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.**

**\*Hymn**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Green Hymnbook, #139

**Call to Confession**

David Shults

Leader: The joy of this Easter season continues as we are called to Word and worship.

Let us pause to confess our sins to our Good Shepherd.

**Prayer of Confession**

David Shults

**All: Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others feel as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment, and the way we evaluate and compare, demean and degrade. Redeem us. Restore us. Help us be faithful as your flock.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

David Shults

Leader: Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**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.**

**\*The Peace**

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Pastor: Jesus said, “My peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.” May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Please take a moment to greet one another and share the peace of Christ.

**First Scripture Reading-1John 5:1-5**

David Shults

<sup>1</sup> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. <sup>2</sup> This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. <sup>3</sup> In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup> for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Anthem**

*How Great Thou Art/with He Leadeth Me*

**arr. Dorothy Wells**

**Ethan Thomas, pianist**

**Prayer for Illumination**

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

**Second Scripture Reading- John 20:19-23**

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

**Transformed by the Resurrection**  
III. From Unbelief to Belief: Thomas

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

**Introduction**

**First, Unbelief**

**Second, Belief**

**Conclusion**

**\*Declaration of Faith (The Nicene Creed)**

David Shults

Leader: Let's declare our faith.

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayer of the People**

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

*Ends with The Lord's Prayer*

**All: 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Offering**

*Invitation to the Offering*

David Shults

Leader: Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and Christ's church.

*(may the ushers move forward and collect the offering)*

*Offertory Music*

*My Shepherd Will Supply My need*

*arr. Virgil Thompson*

**\*Doxology**      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*      Red Hymnbook, #544

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**\*Prayer of Dedication**      David Shults  
Leader: God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to Christ's ministry.

**All: Amen.**

**\*Hymn**      *Thine Is the Glory*      Red Hymnal #209

**\*Benediction**      The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

**\*Benediction Response**      *Shalom*

**Shalom to you now, Shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your Shalom. Christ be your Shalom.**

**Postlude**      *Postlude on a Medieval Tune*      arr. John Troutman  
Ethan Thomas, organist

**Notes:**

*\*Responses with an asterisk indicate standing. Please stand as you are able.*

**Sources for Worship Liturgy:** The liturgy is based on *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

**Welcome Visitors:** Welcome! If you are visiting, please fill out one of the green visitor's cards from the pew and put it in the offering plate. We are glad you are here! Hope to see you again soon!

### **Announcements:**

**Discover Your Joy: A Study of Philippians** (Wednesday, April 24 at 6 p.m.) Please join us for the last meeting of our three-week Bible study on Philippians. A light meal and childcare will be provided.

**2024 Graduates** – If you or someone you know is graduating from high school or college and are associated with our congregation, please email or call the church office to advise us. We would like to recognize their accomplishment!

**Mission Trip** – Urban mission work in Washington, DC, for ages 13 and older, June 12 to June 16. The cost is \$50 and payment is due April 15, 2024. Please contact Nic Chambers or Sarah Shults for details.

**Church Directory** – The updated 2024 church directory is available to you in the narthex or the church office.

**Please Follow Us** – Do you know that we are on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube? Please like, follow, and share! It is a great way to learn about and to share our church activities. Simply look us up at: Erwin Presbyterian Church.

**Food Collection** – The food pantry item for April is instant potatoes.

**Elder of the Month** – Green Faircloth

**Contact Information**

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Ramy N. Marcos

**Email:** ramynmarcos@gmail.com

**Phone:** 860-322-7683

**Office hours Mon-Th, Sun:** 8 a.m. - 4p.m.

**Administrative Assistant:** Jackie Andrews

**Email:** ErwinPresChurch@gmail.com

**Phone:** 423-743-3431 (office)

**Mon-Th:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.