

# United Presbyterian Church

April 26, 2026 Fourth Sunday of Easter



**Welcome and Announcements** Elder Allen Pease

**Prelude** Benjamin Watkins, piano

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 23) Deacon Vera Hietink, Liturgist

Liturgist: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**People: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.**

Liturgist: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff- they comfort me.**

Liturgist: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

**Opening Hymn:** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* #387

**Call for Confession** (Liturgist)

Our sin is before us, leading us astray. Let us return to God through our prayer of confession.

**Prayer of Confession** (in unison with Liturgist—)

**Merciful God, we have followed the desires of our own hearts and neglected the needs of our neighbors. Forgive our hard and selfish ways. Turn us to Christ and Christ's righteous path. Guide our steps in mission and ministry. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Liturgist)

We are an Easter people, forgiven and freed, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. Amen.

\* *Gloria Patri* #579

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Liturgist: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also, with you.**

r: Let us share that peace with one another.

**Prayer for Illumination**

God our helper, guide us into and through your Word, that we might be shaped by your Spirit's message to us today and transformed for service in your world. Amen.

**Music for Meditation**    *Take Up Your Cross*    UPC Quartet

Gospel Lesson    *John 10: 1 - 10* – Reverend

Reverend: The words of the Lord    **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:**    *The Good Shepherd*    Reverend Dr. Edie Lenz

\*Hymn of Praise:    *There Is a Balm in Gilead*    #394

**Affirmation of faith: (from A Brief Statement of Faith) led by Rev. Lenz**  
**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer – Elder Don Root**

**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.

CALL TO OFFERING – Elder Don Root

Offertory

*\*Doxology* #592

Prayer of Dedication – Reverend Lenz

*\*Closing Hymn: When We Are Living – Pues Si Vivimos* #400

**CHARGE and BENEDICTION** Reverend Dr. Edie Lenz

**POSTLUDE** Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

\*Please stand if you are able

**UPC Prayer List** - Email requests to: [upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com).

Kevin Roby Troy Virginia Kathleen Anita

His Eyes Mission in Honduras Nyaka Global in Uganda

All people who are suffering from armed conflict.



Commissioned Pastor – Alejandra Haddad – (812) 322-5327  
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### **Presbyterian Church (USA) Per Capita – What is it?**

The United Presbyterian Church 2026 Per Capita is \$61.

In the PC(USA) Book of Order we find that per capita exists as a way for all Presbyterians to share costs that belong to the whole church, to “demonstrate the unity and interdependence of the church” (G3.0106). Per capita exists to hold Presbyterians together so the whole church may share equitably in those things that make us Presbyterians: • our theological identity • our congregational connectedness • our system of councils that allows ruling elders and teaching elders together to discern the mind of Christ • our ecumenical connections that make us part of the church

universal • our call to work for full participation in decision-making Per Capita allows us to work with other congregations to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit For the common good.: ~ I Cor. 12:7

Per capita is a way in which the 11,000 congregations and councils of the PC (USA) are connected to participate in the work of the wider church. Because it's rooted in the connectional and covenantal nature of the Presbyterian church, as affirmed by the ordination vows taken by ruling/teaching elders, per capita could be called a Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund.

What is "per capita"? The official definition: "Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of the Presbyterian church through the councils to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians." (GA Minutes, Part I, 1995).

How much? The annual per capita is a combined request from a congregation's presbytery, synod, and the General Assembly - based on their respective budgets for the coming year. Our presbytery's per capita rate is recommended by our Finance Committee and reflects a small percentage of our administrative and property expenditures. Paying "per capita" is similar to: • contributing one's dish to a potluck meal • pitching in with other passengers to pay for gasoline for a road trip • paying your part of the tab when a group of friends goes out to eat together.

Some say – "Per Capita is the paste that holds Presbyterians together." More interesting details are available at [PC\(USA\).org](http://PC(USA).org).

UPC would like to have our per capita received by June 1. If able, place a \$61 check, to UPC with Per Capita on memo line; in offering at Sunday worship or in the Narthex plate anytime. You may use our credit/debit card machine. Give the receipt printout to Stephanie – write Per Capita on it.