

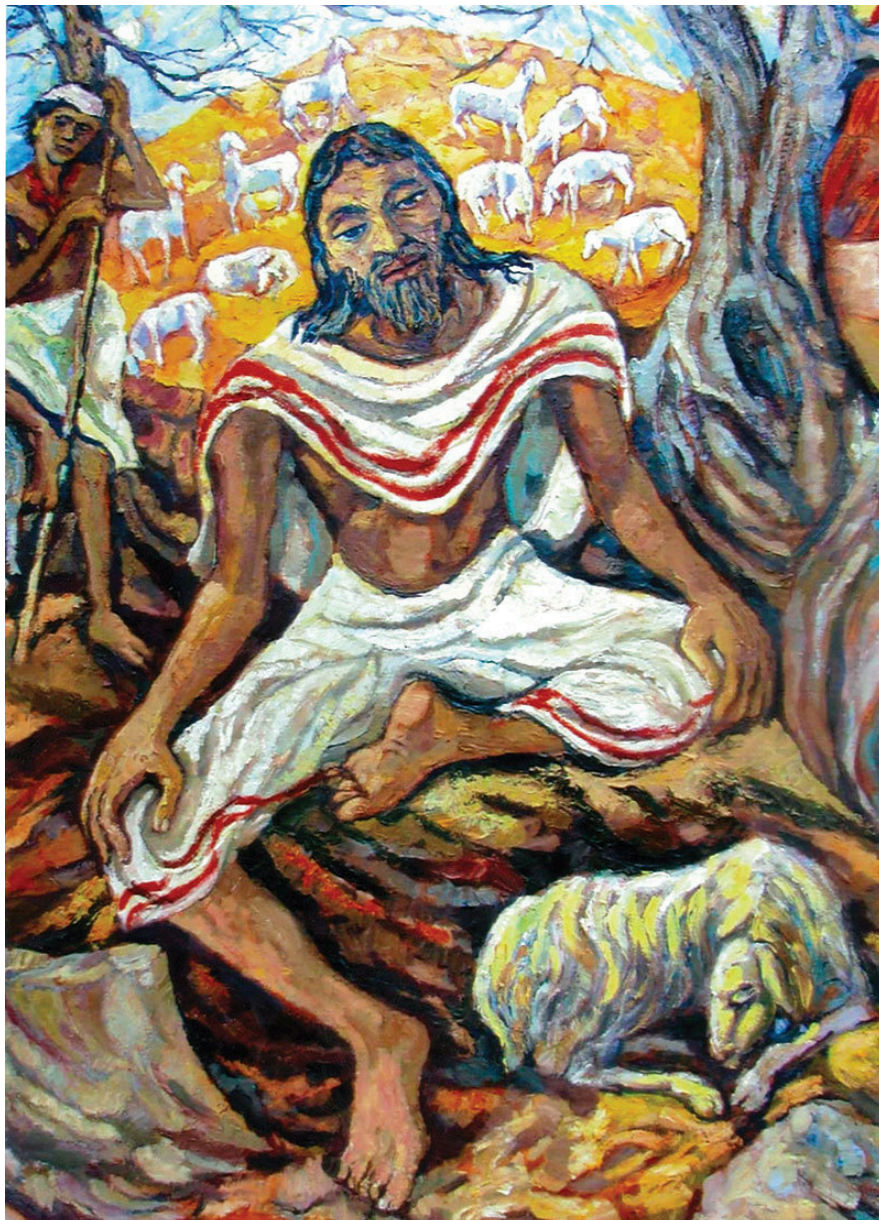


Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

April 26, 2026

New Member Sunday



Jesus as Good Shepherd, Jyoti Sahi

The Service of the Lord's Day

Order of Worship

**Please stand if you are able.
Congregation to recite bolded passages.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

PRELUDE

“I Hear Thy Welcome Voice” by Marianne Kim

Valerie Adlung

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jenn DiFrancesco

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

The Good Shepherd is calling.

We are listening for His voice.

Christ gathers us into one flock.

We are called into life together.

Where the world teaches scarcity and fear,

Christ leads us into trust and abundance.

Where people long for safety, belonging, and hope,

Christ opens the gate to abundant life.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN # 386

“Come, Worship God”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

Christ calls us by name and gathers us into a shared life. But we do not always live like we belong to one another. We hold back. We protect what is ours. We turn away from need. We mistake independence for strength and possession for security. Still, the Good Shepherd keeps calling. So let us tell the truth before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

Good Shepherd, You call us into abundant life, but we often settle for smaller ways of living. You call us into trust, but we cling to control. You call us into community, but we protect our own comfort. You call us to share, but we hold tightly to what we have. You call us to listen for Your voice, but we are distracted by so many others.

Forgive us when we treat faith as private and ignore the needs of our neighbors. Forgive us when we resist the kind of life that asks us to show up for one another. Forgive us when fear shapes our choices more than Your love does.

Draw us back to Your voice. Gather us again as Your people. Teach us to trust one another more deeply, to worship more fully, to give more freely, and to follow You into the kind of life that is wide enough for joy, mercy, and belonging. In Your mercy we pray. Amen.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jenn DiFrancesco

Hear the good news: The Good Shepherd does not abandon the flock. Christ keeps calling, keeps gathering, keeps leading people into life.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We are welcomed, claimed, and held. We are not shut out. We are brought in. We are not left alone. We are made part of the body.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. Thanks be to God.

***CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 582**

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.*

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Jenn DiFrancesco

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Grace McDowell

Living Christ, quiet the voices that pull at our attention and help us hear Your own. Open Your Word to us today. Teach us what abundant life looks like, not only for each of us, but for all of us together. By Your Spirit, shape us into a people who listen well, love generously, and follow where You lead. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

John 10:1-10

Grace McDowell

“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.”

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Mighty to Save” by Reuben Morgan

Valerie Adelung

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:42-47

Jenn DiFrancesco

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

Jenn DiFrancesco

**I believe in God, and 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 Pontious 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**

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Jenn DiFrancesco

Friends, today we have the joy of welcoming new siblings in Christ into the life and ministry of this congregation. They come, as we all do, by the call of the Holy Spirit, to share in worship, service, and daily discipleship.

Questions for the new members

Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, and do you desire to follow Him as a member of His Church?

New Members: I do.

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, sharing in its worship and ministry through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service, as God gives you grace?

New Members: I will, with God's help.

Question to the congregation

Do we, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, welcome these siblings into our common life? Will we love, encourage, and support them, and will we share with them in the work to which God calls us in this place?

All: We will, with God's help.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hope and work of the gospel together.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jenn DiFrancesco

**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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jenn DiFrancesco

The life of the early church was not only something they believed. It was something they practiced together. They shared what they had. They cared for one another. They worshiped with glad and generous hearts. Our offering is one way we practice that same shared life. What we give becomes part of the church's care, witness, and welcome. So let us offer our gifts to God with gratitude and trust.

During this time of offering, we can share our financial gifts by placing them in the offering plates as you leave, or giving online.

OFFERTORY

**"They'll Know We are Christians"
by Mark Hayes**

Valerie Adelung

***DOXOLOGY # 710**

“We Lift Our Voices”

*We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;
Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering; we are an offering.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Jenn DiFrancesco

Generous God, take these gifts and use them to strengthen the life we share in Christ. Use them to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, encourage the weary, and build up Your church. Take what we offer today, and shape us also into a more generous people, ready to share, ready to serve, ready to listen for Your voice. May our life together bear witness to the abundant life You give through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN # 320**

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

***BENEDICTION**

Jenn DiFrancesco

POSTLUDE

“Praise Him! Praise Him!” by Cindy Berry

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Grace McDowell

Thank you to our ushers: Susan Bond, Wende Smith

HAVENWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, Supply Pastor

The Rev. Cathy Bashore, Parish Associate

Susan Riegger, Preschool Director

Valerie Adelung, Music Director

Jake Miller, Worship Technology Coordinator

Julia Wells, Administrator

Lloyd Martin, Facilities Manager

SESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano – Clerk of Session

Joyce Beall – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

Samuel Gatua Muiruri – Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Support

DEACONS

Susan Bond

Elaine DePoy

Cynthia Smith

Judy Yeager



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Come, Worship God

(Psalm 95)

1 Come, wor - ship God, who is wor - thy of hon - or;
 2 Ruled by your might are the heights of the moun - tains;
 3 We are your peo - ple, the sheep of your pas - ture;
 4 Now let us lis - ten, for you speak a - mong us;

en - ter God's pres - ence with thanks and a song!
 held in your hands are the depths of the earth.
 you are our Mak - er, and to you we pray.
 o - pen our hearts to re - ceive what you say.

You are the rock of your peo - ple's sal - va - tion
 Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them,
 Glad - ly we kneel in o - be - dience be - fore you;
 Peace be to all who re - mem - ber your good - ness,

to whom our ju - bi - lant prais - es be - long.
 God a - bove all gods, who gave us our birth.
 great is the one whom we wor - ship this day!
 trust in your word, and re - joice in your way!

Psalm 95, often called *Venite* from its first word in Latin, has long served as an opening canticle in the worship of Western Christianity. John Calvin found here two reasons to praise God: for sustaining the created world and for adopting the church into a gracious relationship.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

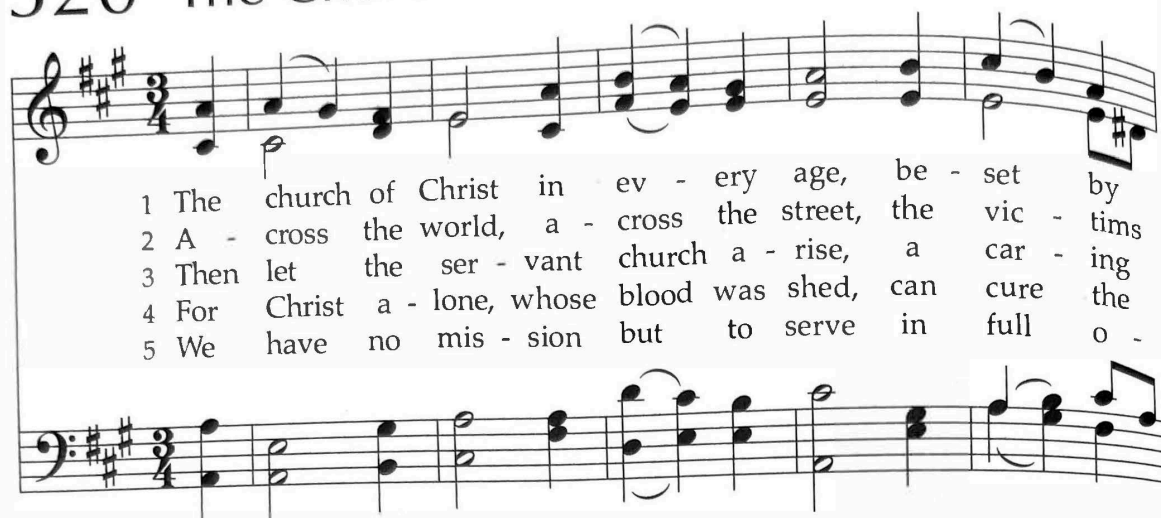
Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

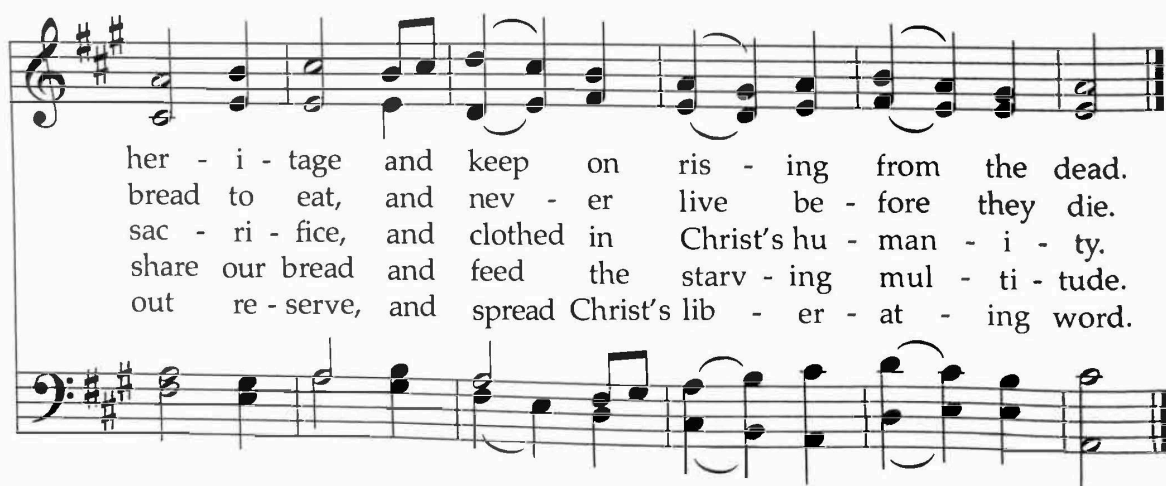
320 The Church of Christ in Every Age



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.