

**The Corporate Worship of God**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**April 14, 2024**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Words of Welcome and Sharing the Life of the Church**

**\*Call to Worship**

Pastor: Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."  
People: **We come, each of us a child of God.**  
Pastor: With childlike faith,  
People: **we come, ready to worship wholeheartedly.**

**\*Hymn** God of Great and Small Hymnal #19

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ. We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it's easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote the way we vote. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love. We ask you to give us the courage to change and to be faithful in all that we say and do.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading** Mark 10:13-16

**Sermon** "The Gift of Children" Rev. Dr. Smith

**\*Hymn** Jesus Loves Me Hymnal #188

**Affirmation of Faith** Adapted from the Confession of 1967

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the realization of true humanity. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among His own people, sharing their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. Expressing God's love in word and deed, He became a friend to sinners, and a refuge for those cast aside. Many rejected Him and demanded His death, but He gave himself freely, with mercy and love. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating Him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became the victor, conquering death for all people. In Christ Jesus, love gets the final word.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn** Tell Me the Story of Jesus Insert

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Choral Response** (to the tune of Edelweiss)

May the Lord, mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever.  
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage for every endeavor.  
Lift your eyes and see his face, keep his love forever. May  
the Lord, mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever.

# West Fork Presbyterian Church



*The Rev. Dr. Greg Smith is today's guest preacher. Greg is a United Church of Christ pastor who currently serves as CEO of White Rock Center of Hope – an ecumenical ministry that provides basic needs and personalized empowerment. Previously, he served nine congregations (in Texas and Florida), taught religion to undergraduates for eight years, and helped three organizations provide quality healthcare to underserved populations. More than 2,100 of Greg's reflections on matters of faith that matter are available on his blog: [www.sowhatfaith.com](http://www.sowhatfaith.com)*

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Third Sunday of Easter  
April 14, 2024  
11:00am**