**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**April 21st , 2024**

**10:00 A.M.**

**PRELUDE:**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***: The King Of Love My Shepherd Is #645*

***1.  The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine for ever.***

***2.  Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.***

***3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.***

WELCOME: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

Priest: Blessed be God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Everyone: And Blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Priest: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open and all desires known and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Everyone: *Come let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.***

***Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.***

***For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.***

***In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.***

***The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.***

***Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.***

***For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!***

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Priest: Let us Pray:

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever **Amen.**

**People: Amen**

**LESSONS:** *Please be seated for the readings of the lessons*.

**1st LESSON:** Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.

When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you,

and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: Here ends the reading from the Book of Acts.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalms:** Psalm 23

### *Let us read it responsively by full verse.*

Reader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**Response: He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

Reader: He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**Response:** **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

Reader: You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Response: Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Reader: Here ends the reading of Psalm 23.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE:** 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader: Here ends the reading from the first Letter of John.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN***: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need #664*

***1. My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is His Name; in pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways, and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.***

***2. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay; one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread; my cup with blessings overflows, thy oil anoints my head.***

***3. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; oh, may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.***

Priest: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Priest/Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. John.

**Response: Glory to you Lord Christ.**

**The Gospel:** John 10:11-18

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

### Priest: The Gospel of our Lord.

**Everyone: Praise to You Lord Christ.**

**MESSAGE: PASTOR BEVERLY**

**MESSAGE RESPONSE: CARSON**

**NICENE CREED**

Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**Everyone: 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

LEM/Deacon:  In prayerful partnership with all faithful people throughout the world,

let us pray for the needs of all people and for all creation, asking God to hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray that as we walk the way of love with compassion, justice and reconciliation in our hearts, that we may inspire all the world to serve Christ in every living thing. God of Grace and love,

***Response:* Hear our Prayer:**

Reader: Let us pray for all those who hold authority in every community and every nation. That they may not lose sight of the most vulnerable among us, and that they may especially seek to protect women and children and the natural resources that help them to thrive. God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for those struggling with poverty and hunger throughout the world, that all peoples, especially the children in countries both rich and poor, may reach their God-given potential to learn, grow and thrive. God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer**.

Reader: Let us pray for the health and well-being of all people. May every person have the resources they need to live and thrive in safety and may all people in every nation have access to life-saving vaccines and medicine.

Let us pray for those who suffer and are in need of care, that they may be comforted, especially those we name now: **Dan R., Mike M., Lee Anne, Maria, Diane, Nana Jo, Patricia K., Scott, Fr. John, Alec, David, Michael, Steve, Sue, Eliza, Linda, Donna, and Catherine. God of grace and love, Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for the men and women serving our country in the armed forces, especially: **Mitchell, Michael, Ethan, Emily, Alan, Chris and Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron and the 983rd Army Combat engineer Battalion.**

**Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done, God of grace and love, Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar God’s creation, especially the barriers to freedom faced by God’s children throughout the world because of gender;

providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, a living wage, and equal political and economic representation; so that all who have been formed in God’s image might know equality in the pursuit of the blessings of creation. God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for this fragile earth, our island home, that we may be emboldened to act on behalf of all of God’s creation on land, in the seas and oceans, and in the air; protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of the land God commanded us to till and keep so that it will continue to bring forth the fruits of the earth in abundance. God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for justice and peace throughout the earth, following the way of Jesus and learning from his example, seeking to serve him in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and respecting the dignity of every human being. God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for those who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart; and for those we hold close and dear in our hearts: God of grace and love,

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

Reader: Eternal God, continue to grace your people with the will to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you as we discern your presence in all challenges we face, for we have been redeemed by your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Response: AMEN**

LEM/Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and one another:

**Everyone: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Priest: Let us all pray for peace in our world as the table is set.

**EVERYONE: Lord, Healer of the Nations, from the noise of war and the drumbeat of vengeance, give us undiminished determination to wage peace.**

**Out of brokenness, violence, and destruction let us plant seeds of hope. Out of chaos, confusion, and hatred, let us build bridges of love.**

**Out of distrust, disunity, and distance, let us walk together in harmony. Heal our divisions, make us whole, and bring us peace. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY: CARSON**

**COMMUNION:**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

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

Priest: Lift up your hearts

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Priest: You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.

You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, your sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.

Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood for the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Everyone: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world.

Bring us into everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

**AMEN, AMEN, AMEN**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest: Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Chris our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Priest: The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving**.**

Priest: Let us pray with those who are unable to receive the Eucharist with us this morning:

**EVERYONE: Dear Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, but since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, I ask that you come spiritually into my heart.**

**Unite me with you and never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

Priest: St. Thomas practices open communion which means that all baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord’s Table.

**Communion can be received either by drinking from the Chalice or by intinction. Either way is acceptable.**

Priest: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven**.**

LEM/Deacon: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Priest: Let us Pray:

**Everyone: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us spiritually with the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**People: Amen**

Priest: May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, May the Lord look upon you with favor and bring you peace.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**: Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation #518

***1. Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone, chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the Church in one; holy Zion's help for ever, and her confidence alone.***

***2.  All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high, in exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody; God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.***

***3. To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, today; with thy wonted lovingkindness hear thy servants as they pray, and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls alway.***

*Please be seated for the Postlude.*

**POSTLUDE: CARSON**

LEM/Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

THANKS: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**