



*An Open & Affirming Congregation of
the United Church of Christ*

21 April 2024 – 10:30 AM
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE *Sheep May Safely Graze* J. S. Bach
Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

WELCOME The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

*GATHERING SONG “Jubilate, servite” Songs & Prayers from Taizé

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to ev’ry heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev’ry heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev’ry heart!**

*CALL TO WORSHIP Jim Howley, liturgist

One: Though the way seems long and the road rough,
All: Yet will we trust in the Good Shepherd to lead us.
One: Though we can’t see it all, nor say exactly what the end of it will be,
All: Yet will we trust in God’s love to guide us.
One: The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures beside still waters,
All: And takes us home to justice, where our souls find peace.

*HYMN #479 (verses 1, 2 & 5) *God Is My Shepherd* BROTHER JAMES’ AIR

**God is my shepherd, I’ll not want, I feed on pastures green.
God grants me rest and bids me drink from waters calm and clean.
Through daily tasks, I’m blessed and led by One I have not seen.**

**Restored to life each morning new, I rise up from the dust
To follow God whose presence gives me confidence and trust.
I praise the name of God today; in God I put my trust.**

**Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;
And where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwelling place will be.
My shepherd blesses, cares and leads through all eternity.**

*PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.**

*GREETING OF PEACE

Primer Question for Today

What is a place of “green pastures” and “still waters” for you?
Where do you feel trust and peace?

ANTHEM

How Firm a Foundation
CHANCEL CHOIR · Cheryl Anderson, director

Dan Forrest

GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

Jim Howley

‘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.’

MISSION MOMENT

with Valerie Arno of Host Homes

MEDITATION

“... *like a child at home.*”

Pastor Dave

HYMN 247 [hymn sheet] (seated) *My Shepherd Is the Living God*

CONSOLATION

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

RESPONSE [seated]

WORLD PEACE PRAYER

**Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.**

OFFERTORY

Invitation
Offertory Music

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving
Kyrie

James E. McCray

*COVENANT

**We covenant with God and with each other:
to walk together in all God’s ways as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus’ ministry in this church;
to celebrate through worship God’s amazing gifts of unity and diversity;
to take up Christ’s mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;
to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.**

*HYMN 81 [hymn sheet]

God Be with You

GOD BE WITH YOU

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Gordon Young