

For Prayer & Contemplation

Strange that in a Christian land it should need to be said, that to punish the innocent and let the guilty go free is unjust! It wrongs the innocent, the guilty, and God himself. - *George MacDonald*

Welcome & Sharing Information

Prelude "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" - arr. Ashdown

Call to Worship (Psalm 23)

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

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

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

All: 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.

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

All: 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.

*Hymn No. 684 "Faith Begins By Letting Go"

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you offer us forgiveness and grace when we fall short, but we just want someone to blame. We find fault with others for our own failures. When others are hurt we look for reasons we are safe instead of ways to help. We focus on the past and ignore the path ahead.

Forgive us, Lord. Help us to see that you are with us always, that grace for ourselves and others can make us whole. Restore us, Lord, and show us how to restore others, so that we can relieve pain instead of finding blame.

Moment of Silence

Words of Assurance

One: Jesus knows our every weakness and loves us still. Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

*Hymn No. 581 "Glory Be to the Father"

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen."

*Passing of Peace

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

Anthem "The Lord Is My Shepherd" - Goodall
Sanctuary Choir

Time with Children (Dismissal to Sunday School)

Pastor: It is time for you to depart.

Adults God be with you there.

Children: God be with you here.

Scripture

1st Reading: *1 Samuel 16: 1-13*

Old Testament pgs. 259-260, LP pg. 322

2nd Reading: *John 9: 1-41*

New Testament pg. 102-103, LP pgs. 125-126

Sermon "The Blame Game" – *Rev. Drew Harrison*

*Affirmation of Faith (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit

who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism,

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,

and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

*Doxology No. 606 "Praise God...All Blessings Flow"

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, Lord. We do not deserve all that you have given us. Accept what we offer, knowing that it represents our whole selves, which we give to you in thanks. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Maureen St. John, Roxanne Somers, Terri D'Onofrio, The Family of Mike Savage, Terry Savage, Harry, Guy Williams, Peggy Price, Darlene Powell, Julia Fisher, The Family of David Knoebel, Marcia Langlois, Meg Yanefski, Joe Bradley, Rev. Paul Grenier, Ryan McCleery, The Family of Susan Hans, Ellorah Maeva, Erin Fitzpatrick, The Family of John Clayton, Caroline, David, Lauren, Vinny, and Sovana, Caleb Tamaska, Jamie, Hayden, Cindy Sudano, Sue Hummel

The Lord's Prayer

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.

*Hymn No. 797 "We Cannot Measure How You Heal"

*Benediction

*Benediction Hymn No. 205 "Live In Charity"

"Live in charity and steadfast love.

Live in charity; God will dwell with you."

Postlude "All Who Believe and Are Baptized" - arr. Osterland

***** ***** Please stand as you are able. *****



Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Ushers	XXXXXXXXXXXX
Liturgist	Patty Januszewski
Acolyte	Jane Harrison



Music Notes

Today's prelude is taken from Franklin Ashdown's 2018 collection for organ, "Eleven Settings of Psalm 23." This selection is based on the traditional North American hymn tune "Resignation," first published in a shape note hymnal in 1828. The anthem is a choral setting of Psalm 23 by British composer Howard Goodall. His first version, for solo voice, was used as the theme for the BBC series "The Vicar of Dibley." In 2000, he arranged it for 4-part mixed choir. The postlude is Karl Osterland's 2016 arrangement of "Etlich christlich Lieder," a tune that dates back to 1524 from Wittenberg, Germany. We thank the Sanctuary Choir for sharing special music with us this morning.



This Week's Calendar March 19 – March 26	
Sunday March 19	10 AM Worship Service Sanctuary/Livestreaming, Chili Cook off 11am, Book Sale 11am, Sunshine Singers 11:15am
Monday March 20	Boy Scouts Social Hall 7pm,
Tuesday March 21	Third Meal 5:30pm, Girl Scouts – Social Hall 6:30pm
Wednesday March 22	Sparrow Chorale – Music Room, 6:30pm
Thursday March 23	Trustees Meeting 9am, Joy Circle 10am, Bell Choir 7pm, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 8pm
Friday March 24	
Saturday March 25	
Sunday March 26	10 AM Worship Service Sanctuary/Livestreaming, Jazz Vespers 5pm

Birthday Blessings



This Week's Birthday	
March 19	Karla Langlois
March 20	Madeleine Enever
March 25	Jennifer Russell
March 26	Stephanie Lai



"God's Open House"

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10 AM Worship Service
 March 19, 2023
 4th Sunday in Lent
 Rev. Drew Harrison