



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Easter

As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.

The Prelude

*Andante religioso (from Sonata No. 4)
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Felix Mendelssohn

The Introit

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

The Call to Worship

Leader: Can you hear the voice of God?

People: We hear God calling us by name.

Leader: Are you troubled or distressed?

People: We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.

Leader: Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

**People: We come to praise our Shepherding God,
whose pathways and doors lead to life.**

The Processional Hymn No. 549

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ST. PETER

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound. | 4. Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contentions cease;
be Christ the glory that we seek,
be ours his holy peace. |
| 2. With grateful joy and holy fear
true charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and strength
now love Christ in return. | 5. Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten Son;
as members of His body joined,
we are in him made one. |
| 3. Forgive us now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well
in Christian holiness. | 6. Love can exclude no race or creed
if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all
whose Maker is the same. |

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The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Shepherding God, bring us into your fold.
Lead us beside still waters and restore our souls.
Help us see the way we should go, the way we should live.
Help us hear your voice calling our name.**

Enliven this time of worship,
that we may find true life as we join with others:
praising your name, celebrating your great goodness,
and sharing your love for all people. Amen.

The Announcements

The Prayer of Illumination

The Psalter pages 754

Psalm 23

Jn. 10:10
Richard Proulx

The Good Shep-herd comes that we ___ may have
life and have ___ it a - bun - dant - ly.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words underlined. The first staff contains the lyrics 'The Good Shep-herd comes that we ___ may have' and the second staff contains 'life and have ___ it a - bun - dant - ly.' There are some blank lines in the lyrics, likely for breath or emphasis.

Response

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,**
leads me beside still waters,
- 3 restores my life,
leads me in right paths
for the sake of the Lord's name.
- 4 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.

Response

- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
as long as I live.

Response

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:42-47

The Hymn No. 2243

We All Are One in Mission

KUORTANE

1. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

- A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.
2. We all are called for service, to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.
 3. Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

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The Sermon

What Church Can Be

Dr. Matt Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Anthem

The Lord Is My Shepherd

Emily Downey, soprano
Thomas Matthews

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 that 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, forever. Amen.**

The Recessional Hymn No. 68

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

1. When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!
2. How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!
3. So has the church in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Alleluia!
4. And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!
5. Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!

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The Benediction

The Choral Response And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

The Postlude *Allegro maestoso e vivace* (from Sonata No. 2) Felix Mendelssohn
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***Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning
by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).***

***The altar flowers this morning are in honor of Stan Baker, thank you for your years of
musical service by Sharon Steele.***

***Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us throughout the week to make all the worship
services this week possible.***

Scripture

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Life among the Believers

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ 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.

Announcements

EARTH DAY CALL FOR TUPPERWARE! The Pace Center (VCU campus ministry) is requesting new and used food storage containers. Pace provides food to students and, in order to honor our commitment to caring for creation, refrains from using disposable containers. Please drop off new or used containers (clean and with a tight fitting lid) by April 30. A drop off box is located outside the Ladies Parlor.

A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF STAN BAKER – Today, immediately following worship. Join us as we honor and celebrate Stan's **32 years** as the Music Director at Centenary!

SAVE THE DATE – May 4 at Noon. Calling all women. Quiche and Salad Lunch at the Vetrovec home. A tradition of food, fun, fellowship for more than 35 years. Please bring a quiche, salad, or dessert to share. This invitation is open to everyone and their guests. No reservations necessary! For more information, call 804-320-4349 and leave a message.

LOST AND FOUND – A DAY OF REFLECTION, HOPE AND HEALING – Saturday, May 20, 9:30am-3:00pm. Cost: \$35.

Our worlds have been turned upside down in the past three years. Our facilitator, David Hoover, will lead us in a day of meditation, silence and sharing as we examine together what has been the toll and treasure of these pandemic years. For more information, contact the church office. To register use QR or email davidwhoover@aol.com.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00am - Join us on Wednesdays as we gather on Zoom to look at the scripture for the upcoming week. An email is out with all the details on Tuesdays. If you would like to be added to the Bible study email list, please contact the church office.

Upcoming Events

THIS WEEK

May 1	5:00 pm	Change the World/RVA
May 2	Noon	AA
May 3	10:00 am 7:15 pm	Zoom Bible Study Choir Rehearsal
May 4	12:00 pm	Smethie Circle Quiche and Salad Lunch
May 5	10:30 am	Friday Lunch Program
May 7	10:30 am	In person & Live Stream Worship

LOOKING AHEAD

May 20	9:30 am	Lost and Found: A Day of Reflection, Hope and Healing
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Online Giving Made Easy – No Account Needed!

