



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**April 21, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday in Easter**

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

**Prelude**

*Sheep May Safely Graze*

J. S. Bach

**Choral Introit**

*The Lord's My Shepherd*

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**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, walk with the Lord this day.

**People: We seek places of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.**

Leader: The Shepherd will lead you to places where your soul may be restored.

**People: We come, sometimes fearful of the hostilities of the world.**

Leader: In the midst of all the turmoil, The Shepherd will provide for your needs abundantly.

**People: Surely these wonders will heal and restore our spirits. Amen.**

**Hymn No. 138**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

ST. COLUMBA

1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.  
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.
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.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

**Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Thank you, loving God, for bringing us to this time of worship.**

**Refresh us and heal us again.**

**Remind us of the many ways in which you have blessed our lives  
with your abundant love and your presence.**

**Guide our hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words  
and our souls may be stirred into active service to your people.**

**In the name of the Good Shepherd, who leads us to life, we pray. Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Children's Time**

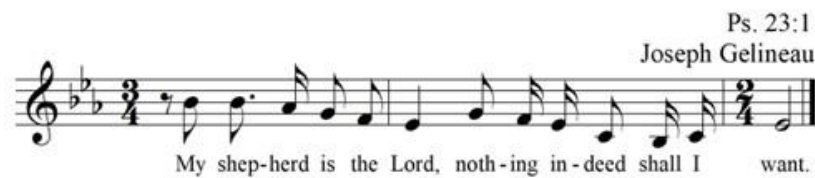
## Prayer of Illumination

### First Reading

[Acts 4:5-12](#)

### Psalter

Psalm 23



#### *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*

### Second Reading

[1 John 3:16-24](#)

### Hymn No. 381

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;  
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;  
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.
4. Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

### Gospel Reading

[John 10:11-18](#)

**The Affirmation of Faith No. 887***Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39*

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?  
 Shall tribulation or distress,  
 persecution or famine,  
 or nakedness or peril or sword?

**People: No!**

**In all things we are more than conquerors  
 through the One who loved us.  
 We are sure that neither  
 death nor life,  
 nor angels, nor principalities,  
 nor things present, nor things to come,  
 nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
 nor anything else in all creation,  
 will be able to separate us from the love of God  
 in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
 Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Offertory Prayer****Offertory Anthem***My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

arr. Virgil Thomson

**Doxology No. 94**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Prayers of the People**

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

**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.**

**Hymn No. 128***He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*

HE LEADETH ME

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
 Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

### ***Refrain***

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
by waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. [Refrain]
3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. [Refrain]
4. And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me. [Refrain]

### **Benediction**

#### **Choral Response**

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#### **Postlude**

*The Kingsfold Trumpet*

Alfred Fedak

*The altar flowers this morning are given by Izzy Spiers in honor of the beautiful experiences and memories at Centenary UMC and the wonderful people.*

#### ***Reminder!***

***Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).***

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

## ***Welcome!***

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

## ***Announcements***

**JOIN US ON TODAY AS WE CELEBRATE IZZY SPIERS** Today is Izzy's last Sunday at Centenary, so join us at a reception following the worship. This will be a chance to say farewell, meet his new wife, Jensen, and send them off with our congratulations and best wishes

**WELCOME ADELLA BARRETT! - Sunday, May 5 at 9:30am.** We invite you to join the Staff Parish Relations Team in a warm welcome to Adella Barrett, our new Coordinator of Ministry to Seniors, on Sunday, May 5 at 9:30am. We plan to gather in the Fellowship Hall before the service to "meet and greet" Adella and to enjoy a light continental breakfast. This is a wonderful opportunity for the entire congregation to extend its hospitality to Adella.

**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH – Tuesday, May 7 - 12:30 pm at Mary E. Vetovec's home** Pot Luck: Quiche, Salad & Dessert luncheon! This is open to all women of the church & will replace our May C/GP UWF meeting. We look forward to seeing you at this fun get-together! Please RSVP to the church office. This will be our last meeting until September! Enjoy your summer!

**MISSION FAIR May 19, 2024** - The Serving Team invites the congregation to a *Mission Fair*, immediately following the service on May 19, 2024. At the Mission Fair, you'll get a chance to visit local organizations offering volunteer opportunities. As you make your way through each booth, you will earn a ticket. The ticket(s) will allow you to build an ice cream sundae.

**WHO IS JESUS?** There are many historical, doctrinal and cultural answers to this question, but for most of us who call ourselves Christian the important answer relates not to doctrine or history but to how we experience Jesus in our own lives. In her book *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*, Diana Butler Bass shares her personal experiences of Jesus and invites us to reflect on and perhaps enlarge our understanding of Jesus in our own lives. You are invited to share in this journey in a six week class facilitated by Pat Shipley on Sunday mornings, beginning at 9:00am on Sunday, May 11. The book is available from Amazon with the Kindle edition currently only \$2.99!

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** –Join us on Zoom at 10:00am. An email with more information and the Zoom link is sent out every Tuesday. If you would like to join us, contact the church office for the details and to be put on the email list.

## *Upcoming Events*

<b>April 22</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Change the World/RVA
<b>April 23</b>	<b>Noon</b>	AA
<b>April 24</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Zoom Bible Study
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>April 26</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	Friday Lunch Program
	<b>Noon</b>	AA
<b>April 28</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	Worship – In person and online