

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 a.m.

April 30, 2023

** indicates "stand if you are able." UMH is the blue hymnal. TFWS is the small black book.*

PRELUDE

INTROIT *"Crown Him Lord of All" by Marty Parks* Insert

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The risen Christ is with us.

All: Praise the Lord!

*HYMN *"How Great Thou Art"* UMH #77

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

One: Hear Jesus's great truth: I am the gate for the sheep!

All: **We recognize this voice. We've heard these words before.**

One: Come in! You belong here! You are safe and cared for here!

All: **We recognize the voice of our shepherd.**

One: Follow and find green pastures and still waters!

All: **We hear his voice.**

One: I come to give life and give it abundantly.

All: **Come one, come all!**

One: And together let us pray.

All: **Risen Savior, Reliable Shepherd, we hear your voice calling us to follow. We remember our ancient brothers and sisters who gathered in prayer and praise. Today, we too gather in prayer and praise. Enliven us with your resurrection power – a power that frees us from despair. Enliven us with your abundant life. May your living power flow through us in all we are and do! In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES *"Children's Message"*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let all who wish to know the ways of life and death listen for the word of God. Truly the presence of the Lord is in this place.

THE ACTS READING Acts 2:42-47

THE EPISTLE READING 1 Peter 2:19-25

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 6:9-13

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *"Our Father in Heaven"* Rev. Jane Kim

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another. *(From UMH page 7)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving Savior, Shepherd with the voice we know, be with us when we stray. For we often hear the voices of strangers and follow them to dry pastures and dark valleys. We forget your voice of love and begin to feel small and lost. We fear that we will not have enough to go on, much less have a surplus to offer others. And yet you know us by heart and by name. Call us once again. Restore our souls. Walk ahead of us on the right paths, and we will follow you. Remembering your voice, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Jesus is our gate. We will enter and be saved. Jesus is our shepherd. We will walk upon his paths. Jesus restores our souls, and make us whole. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives. And we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (in unison)

Let us be generous in our giving, that others may see in us the transforming power of God. Let us be lavish in our gifts, that others may draw life from the bounty of God's blessings.

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *"Shepherd Me, O God"* by Marty Haugen
CUMC Adult Choir

(Refrain)

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fear, from death into life.

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,

You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
My spirit shall sing the music of your name.

3. Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
Crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forever more.

*DOXOLOGY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH #95

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

God of Abundant Life, Host of our Table, we devote ourselves and these gifts to your vision of a community that meets the needs of any and all. We give our gifts of money and work, of prayer and praise, of presence and purpose to our friends and neighbors. Bless our offering, that It may meet the needs, both small and large, of your great and generous blessing. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

UKRAINE

God of peace and justice, we pray for Ukraine today. We pray for people suffering from war. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. Stop the war o, God. Amen.

*HYMN *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"* UMH #526

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One: May goodness and mercy flow from us all the days of our lives!
 Go in peace.

All: Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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April 30, 2023

Rev. Jane H. Kim
Pastor

Jeong-Hwa Park
Minister of Music

Mrs. Rita Lieberman
Secretary