

CENTERPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

centerportumc.org

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

MAY 1, 2022

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

+denotes congregation please stand if able

Congregation please respond with the bolded lines

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

William Temple

Lord Jesus Christ, who prayed for your disciples that they might be one, even as you are one with the Father; draw us to yourself, that in common love and obedience to you, we may be united to one another, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CALL TO WORSHIP

"Come to me," Christ says.

We know and hear his voice.

"Walk with me," Christ calls.

We know and follow his call.

"Live with me," Christ offers.

We rejoice in this promise of life.

Come, let us worship our Savior, our Redeemer!

+OPENING HYMN #77

"How Great Thou Art"

United Methodist Hymnal

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain: Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur, and see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze. (*Refrain*)

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing; sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin. (*Refrain*)

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration, and then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" (*Refrain*)

+OPENING PRAYER

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, walk beside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"I Am a Promise"
Children's Choir

William and Gloria Gaither

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 23

New Revised Standard Version

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:1-15
The Good Shepherd

New Revised Standard Version

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. "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.

MESSAGE

“Following the Voice”

Wayne Carty

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work, that we may all feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion. Amen.

+CLOSING HYMN # 378 (v. 1-3, 6)

“Amazing Grace”

United Methodist Hymnal

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun.

BENEDICTION

+++++

Thank you to Wayne Carty for leading us in worship today.