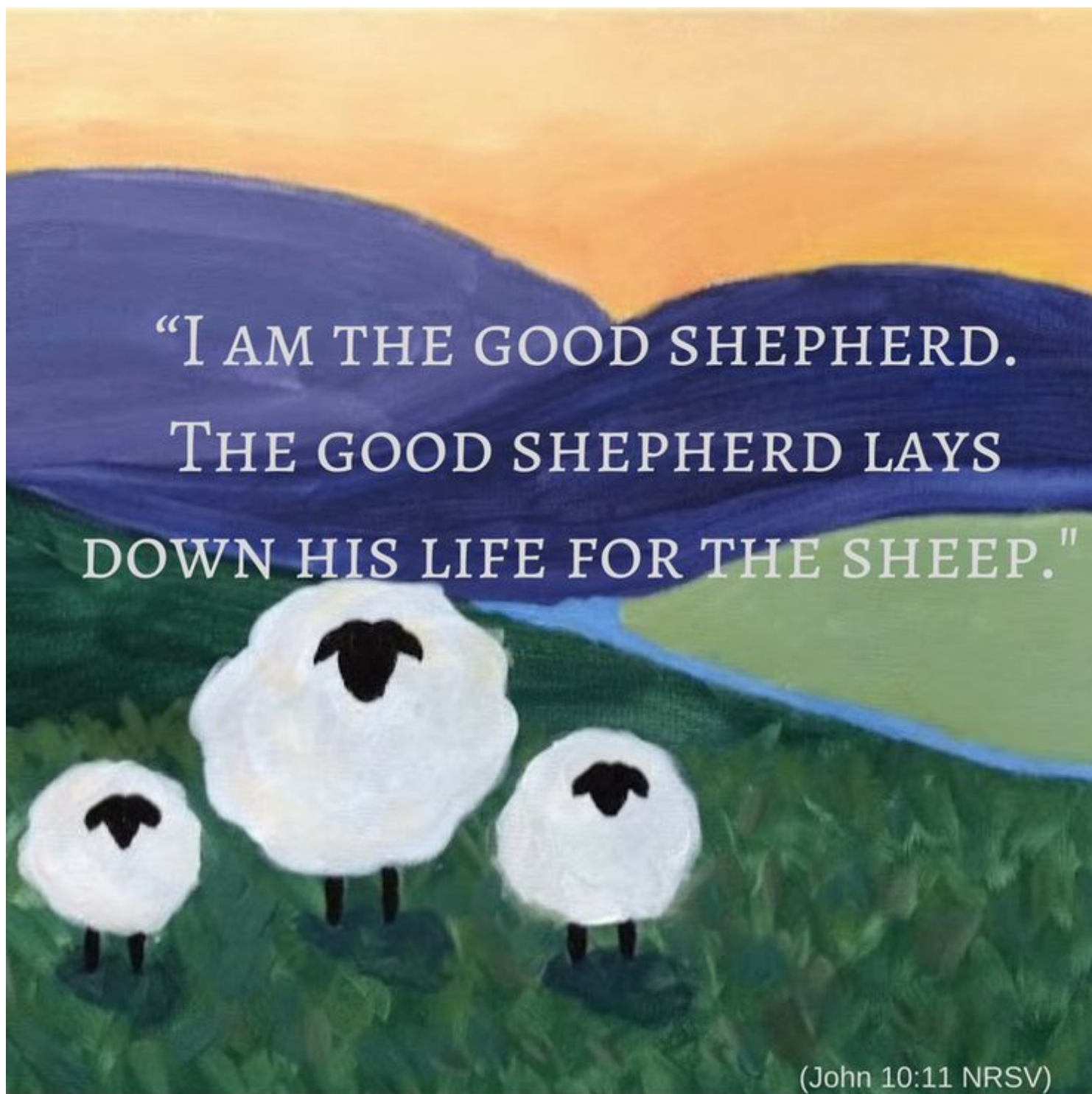


A Service of Worship on the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21st, 2024



Gathering in God's Presence

(Nursery Care and Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall next door.)

PRELUDE

INVITATION TO PRESENCE

SONG

“In the Lord Rejoicing”

Taizé



In the Lord re - joic-ing! Christ is ris - en from the dead! Al - le-lu - ia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come from the wide world

All: **but gather here to remember whose we are.**

One: We belong to the One who was willing to lay down his life for us,

All: **and show us our value in God's eyes.**

One: We gather to honor the One who took up life in all its fullness,

All: **to give us hope of abundant life despite the shadow of death.**

One: We gather to hear the voice of the One we can trust—

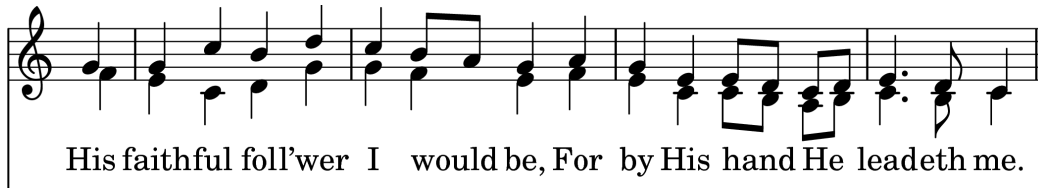
All: **and entrust our lives to Christ's care.**

HYMN

“He Leadeth Me, O Blesses Thought”

 Musical notation for the hymn 'He Leadeth Me, O Blesses Thought'. It is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time. The melody is a simple, repetitive line. The lyrics are:

1. He lead - eth me! O bless - ed tho't!
 2. Some - times 'mid scenes of deep - est gloom,
 3. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,
 O words with heav'n - ly com - fort fraught!
 Some - times where E - den's bow - ers bloom,
 Nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine,
 What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I be,
 By wa - ters still, o'er trou - bled sea,
 Con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see,
 Still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me!
 Still 'tis His hand that lead - eth me!
 Since 'tis Thy hand that lead - eth me!
 He leadeth me, He lead-eth me, By His own hand He leadeth me:



WORDS: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918
 MUSIC (HE LEADETH ME 8.8.8.8.(L.M.) with Refrain): William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Good Shepherd,

in the dangerous landscape of these times,
 so many voices say, "Come here!" or "Go there!"

You call us to follow in your ways but we are distracted by other shepherds
 to whom we do not ultimately belong--

security experts, wealth managers, national patriots, self-help gurus--
 mere hired hands leading us according to ulterior motives.

We are easily thrown into confusion by those who threaten to harm us.

We long to recognize your clear voice calling us by name--
 calling us to trust your guidance;

to enjoy your abundant providence;

and to live at peace with flocks strange to us but well known to you.

SILENT PRAYER (take time to be personal and specific)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON based on Psalm 121:7-8

One: Here the promised of our faithful Shepherd.

All: Christ will keep our going out and our coming in
 from this time on and for evermore.

Christ will protect us from all evil;

God will keep our life.

***SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"



WORDS: Bob Cull (John 12:21; Eph. 1:17-18)
 MUSIC: Bob Cull

OPEN OUR EYES
 Irregular

**SCRIPTURE
 OLD TESTAMENT**

Jeremiah 23:1-4

ANTHEM

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Anne Bialke

NEW TESTAMENT

John 10:1-18

SERMON

“Trustworthy Shepherds”

Ms. Joseph Rack

Responding to God's Word

*HYMN #346

“For the Healing of the Nations”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH adapted from the Confession of Belhar

We believe that the church must together
come to know the height and the breadth
and the depth of the love of Christ.

We believe that together
we are built up to the stature of Christ, the new humanity.

We believe that we must together
know and bear one another's burdens,
thereby fulfilling the law of Christ.

We believe that we are called
to admonish and comfort one another;
to suffer with one another
for the sake of righteousness;
to pray together;
and together serve God in this world.

OFFERING

“We Are An Offering”

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering. Lord, use our lives, they are yours; we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering, we are an offering." The score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, notes, rests, and dynamic markings. There are also some editorial markings like '3', '1', and '2' above the notes.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

We Depart to Serve God in the World

SHARING CALLINGS & GOD MOMENTS
ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

***CLOSING SENTENCE** Hebrews 13:20-21

One: Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
make us complete in everything good,

All: so that we may do Christ's will,
working among us that which is pleasing in God's sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever.

SENDING SONG

“Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil”

Good-ness is strong-er than e - vil; love is strong-er than
hate; light is strong-er than dark - ness; life is strong-er than
death. Vic-tory is ours, vic-tory is ours through him who
loved us. Vic-tory is us.

Words: Desmond Tutu

Music: John Bell

SENDING
POSTLUDE

+++

Thank you to our Liturgist Kris Alling.
Thank you to our guest Musician, Alice Ploss.