



CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

08/02/26

11:00am



No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

August 02, 2026

WELCOME.....

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, everyone who is thirsty!

Many: We come to drink from God's everlasting well of peace.

One: There is a table set with more than we could ask for.

Many: There is enough for everyone, and all are welcome.

One: Let us sing like people who trust there is enough.

Many: Let us worship like people who believe in God's abundance.

One: Let us celebrate the God who delights in all creation.

Many: Let us celebrate God with open, grateful hearts!

HYMN #417 "This is a Day of New Beginnings" 1,2,4*

1 This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

2 For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.

***4 (for Holy Communion)**

In faith we'll gather 'round the table
to taste and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings -
our God is making all things new.

OPENING REFLECTION.....

"Suite No. 3 for Unaccompanied Cello, BWV 1009 II. Allemande. Beth Purvis, cello

JOYS AND CONCERNS.....

PRAYER.....

SCRIPTURE.....

Isaiah 55:1-5, New Revised Standard Version

55:1 Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

55:2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

55:3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

55:4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

55:5 Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Matthew 14:13-21, New Revised Standard Version

14:13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

14:14 When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.

14:15 When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

14:16 Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

14:17 They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."

14:18 And he said, "Bring them here to me."

14:19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

14:20 And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.

14:21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Isaías 55:1-5, Nueva Versión Internacional

55 «¡Vengan a las aguas

todos los que tengan sed!

¡Vengan a comprar y a comer

los que no tengan dinero!

Vengan, compren vino y leche

sin pago alguno.

2 ¿Por qué gastan dinero en lo que no es pan

y su salario en lo que no satisface?

Escúchenme bien: comerán lo que es bueno

y se deleitarán con manjares deliciosos.

3 Presten atención y vengan a mí,

escúchenme y vivirán.

Haré con ustedes un pacto eterno,

conforme a mi inquebrantable amor por David.

4 Lo he puesto como testigo para los pueblos,

como su gobernante supremo.

5 Sin duda convocarás a naciones que no conocías

y naciones que no te conocían correrán hacia ti,

gracias al Señor tu Dios,

el Santo de Israel,

que te ha colmado de honor».

Mateo 14:13-21, Nueva Versión Internacional

13 Cuando Jesús recibió la noticia, se retiró él solo en una barca a un lugar solitario. Las multitudes se enteraron y lo siguieron a pie desde los poblados. 14 Cuando Jesús desembarcó y vio tanta gente, tuvo compasión de ellos y sanó a los que estaban enfermos.

15 Al atardecer se le acercaron sus discípulos y dijeron:

—Este es un lugar apartado y ya se hace tarde. Despide a la gente, para que vayan a los pueblos y se compren algo de comer.

16 —No tienen que irse —contestó Jesús—. Denles ustedes mismos de comer.

17 Ellos objetaron:

—No tenemos aquí más que cinco panes y dos pescados.

18 —Tráiganmelos acá —dijo Jesús.

19 Y mandó a la gente que se sentara sobre la hierba. Tomó los cinco panes y los dos pescados y, mirando al cielo, los bendijo. Luego partió los panes y se los dio a los discípulos, quienes los repartieron a la gente. **20** Todos comieron hasta quedar satisfechos y los discípulos recogieron doce canastas llenas de pedazos que sobraron. **21** Los que comieron fueron unos cinco mil hombres, sin contar a las mujeres y a los niños.

A TIME FOR ALL AGES.....

HYMN #476 How Can I Keep from Singing 1,2,4

1 My life flows on in endless song,

above earth's lamentation.

I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn

that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife

I hear the music ringing:

It finds an echo in my soul—

How can I keep from singing?

2 What though my joys and comforts die?

My Savior still is living

What though the shadows gather 'round?

A new song Christ is giving.



No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love commands both heav'n and earth,
how can I keep from singing?
4 I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths,
Since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing;
All things are mine since I am Christ's
How can I keep from singing.

SERMON.....Rev. Dr. Sarah Townes

PASTORAL PRAYER.....

PRAYER OF JESUS

Our Father, Our Mother,
Who is in Heaven, Holy be Your name,
Kin(g)dom come, Your will be done,
On Earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from evil,
For yours is the Kin(g)dom and the
Power and the glory,
Now and forever, Amen.

SHARING OUR GIFTS.....

OFFERTORY.....

Suite No. 3 BWV 1009 V. Bourrée I and II. Beth Purvis, cello

DOXOLOGY

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!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....

COMMUNION HYMN #321 Break Now the Bread of Life”

1 Break now the bread of life, Savior, to me,

as you once broke the loaves beside the sea;

Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;

my spirit yearns for you, O Living Word.

2 Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me,

as you once blessed the bread by Galilee;

Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall,

and I shall find my peace, my all in all!.

COMMUNION.....

LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY.....

I AM ONE VOICE.....

CLOSING REFLECTION.....

Suite No. 3 BWV 1009 IV Sarabande. Beth Purvis, cello

BENEDICTION.....

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Thank you for joining us in worship today

We are delighted to have you worshipping with us today!



Church of the Good Shepherd, UCC is a dynamic congregation with a rich history and vibrant ministry in the community. Our church is a part of a blend of five major Protestant denominations that united together in 1957 to form the United Church of Christ: Congregational, Christian, Afro-Christian, German Evangelical and Reformed. We celebrate the words of Pastor John Robinson, who in his farewell remarks to the Pilgrims as they were leaving for the "new world," said, "There is still more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word." We say at our church that "God is still speaking!" "There is still more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word."

- We are a church that:
 - Centers our faith and practice in the life and ministry Jesus Christ.
 - Takes the Bible seriously, not literally.
 - Builds community partnerships across differences.
 - Worships God with joyful hearts and open minds.
 - Includes children in the life and ministry of the church.
 - Celebrates creativity and the arts.
 - Encounters Christ in Creation, community, sacraments, music, scripture, and service.
 - Listens and responds to the movement of the Holy Spirit.
 - Celebrates an open table and seeks to be inclusive of ALL people.
 - Seeks to live out our faith in the world as we build God's reign of love and justice on earth.
 - Believes that growth in wisdom and understanding happens at all stages of life.
 - Embraces solidarity, not just charity.
 - Is committed to work for justice for all people and for the environment.
 - Cares for one another, laughs easily, and rests in God's love.

Vision Statement

Church of the Good Shepherd desires to be an

Mission Statement

The mission of Church of the Good

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

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www.ucccogs.org

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