



CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10/11/26

11:00am



And the peace of God,
which transcends all understanding,

Will guard your

»»→ hearts and your ←««

minds in Christ

Jesus

»»→ **Philippians 4:7** ←««



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

October 11, 2026

WELCOME.....

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise be to God, who has brought us here this day.

Many: Thanks be to God for the blessing of time in community.

One: What joy we have when we feel God's love!

Many: What peace is brought to us in God's presence!

One: This is truly the day that God has made!

Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

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.

OPENING REFLECTION.....
"His Eye Is On The Sparrow," arr. by Robert J. Hughes, Tune by Chas. H. Gabriel
Dorenda Morse, piano

JOYS AND CONCERNS.....

PRAYER.....

SCRIPTURE.....

Psalm 23, King James Version

23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
4 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.
5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my
head with oil; my cup runneth over.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord for ever.

Philippians 4:1-9, the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

4 1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,
stand firm in the Sovereign One in this way, my beloved.
2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in Christ. 3 Yes, and I ask
you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in
the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose
names are in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in God always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. God is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Salmos 23, Nueva Versión Internacional

23 El Señor es mi pastor, nada me falta;

2 en verdes pastos me hace descansar.

Junto a tranquilas aguas me conduce;

3 me infunde nuevas fuerzas.

Me guía por sendas de justicia

haciendo honor a su nombre.

4 Aun si voy

por valles tenebrosos,

no temeré ningún mal

porque tú estás a mi lado;

tu vara y tu bastón me reconfortan.

5 Dispones ante mí un banquete

en presencia de mis enemigos.

Has ungido con aceite mi cabeza;

has llenado mi copa a rebosar.

6 Seguro estoy de que la bondad y el amor

me seguirán todos los días de mi vida;

y en la casa del Señor

habitaré para siempre.

Filipenses 4:1-9, Reina-Valera 1960

4 Así que, hermanos míos amados y deseados, gozo y corona mía, estad así firmes en el Señor, amados.

2 Ruego a Evodia y a Síntique, que sean de un mismo sentir en el Señor. 3 Asimismo te ruego también a ti, compañero fiel, que ayudes a estas que combatieron juntamente conmigo en el evangelio, con Clemente también y los demás colaboradores míos, cuyos nombres están en el libro de la vida.

4 Regocijaos en el Señor siempre. Otra vez digo: ¡Regocijaos! 5 Vuestra gentileza sea conocida de todos los hombres. El Señor está cerca. 6 Por nada estéis afanosos, sino sean conocidas vuestras peticiones delante de Dios en toda oración y ruego, con acción de gracias. 7 Y la paz de Dios, que sobrepasa todo entendimiento, guardará vuestros corazones y vuestros pensamientos en Cristo Jesús.

8 Por lo demás, hermanos, todo lo que es verdadero, todo lo honesto, todo lo justo, todo lo puro, todo lo amable, todo lo que es de buen nombre; si hay virtud alguna, si algo digno de alabanza, en esto pensad. 9 Lo que aprendisteis y recibisteis y oísteis y visteis en mí, esto haced; y el Dios de paz estará con vosotros.

A TIME FOR ALL AGES.....

HYMN #479 “God is My Shepherd” 1,2,5

1 God is my shepherd, I'll not want,
I feed in pastures green.

God grants me rest and bids me drink
from waters calm and clean.

Through daily tasks, I'm blessed and led
by One I have not seen.

2. Restored to life each morning new,
I rise up from the dust

To follow God whose presence gives
me confidence and trust.

I praise the name of God today;
in God I put my trust.

5 Good-ness and mer-cy all my days
Will surely fol-low me.

And where God reigns in heaven and earth,
My dwell-ing place will be.

My shepherd bless-es, cares, and leads
Through all e-ter-ni-ty.

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

PASTORAL PRAYER.....

PRAYER OF JESUS

Life Giver,

Who is in Heaven, Holy be Your name,

Your 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.....

“Spirit, Come, Dispel Our Sadness,” by Joshua Leavitt, Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR, arr. By Anna Laura Page Copyright 2020 Choristers Guild. Dorenda Morse, piano

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.....

CLOSING HYMN #478 “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” 1,2,4

1 I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river, in my soul.
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river, in my soul.

2 I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain, in my soul.
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

4 I’ve got faith like an anchor,
I’ve got faith like an anchor,
I’ve got faith like an anchor, in my soul.
I’ve got faith like an anchor,
I’ve got faith like an anchor,
I’ve got faith like an anchor, in my soul.

LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY.....

CLOSING REFLECTION.....

“The Rainbow Connection” by Paul Williams and Kenneth L. Ascher. Axel Catterall, solo

BENEDICTION.....

Prayer Request

Please pray for Elise for healing requested by Elise.

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