

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 25th, 2021

3rd Sunday after Easter

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN

MINI MOVIE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

PRELUDE Lift High the Cross

P. Manz

CHORAL INTROIT Alive, Alive!

Don Marsh

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Good Shepherd invites us to green pastures.

We are refreshed beside still waters.

We have been given everything we have.

God offers us everything we need.

When we walk through shadowed valleys, God is with us.

We are comforted and reassured.

God leads us in the right paths.

Our cups are filled to overflowing.

God welcomes us to the table where love is expressed.

We are invited to partake of the truth God offers.

We have received plenty that we might share.

We are called to be God's helpers.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

Good Shepherd, we meet in your name, confident that we are known and loved by you.

Here we draw close to one another and to you, expecting to be empowered by fresh insights to live as your people. We want to care for one another in life-giving ways. We

seek to reach out to those who deny you or suspect us. Help us grow in love that is genuine in its caring and self-sacrifice. We embrace the wholeness you offer and dare to

risk acceptance of a healing role for ourselves and this faith community. Equip us for service beyond this hour of meeting. Amen.

***HYMN** When Morning Gilds the Skies

#99

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Good Shepherd, we have wandered down the strange pathways of our world. We have ventured into dead-end streets that looked more inviting than the narrow ways marked out by the signposts of your love. We have trusted other voices and turned away from your truth. We have accepted your gifts without acknowledgement. We have failed to use our overflowing cups to fill the cups of sisters and brothers who need what we could offer. Forgive us, we pray, and restore us to your fold. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news. By the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are restored to wholeness. God's love will abide with us as long as we share it with others.

Our souls will be fed when we focus on feeding others. We will be empowered by prayer and generosity.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#805

CHORAL ANTHEM To God All Praise and Glory

Carolyn Jennings

CHILDREN'S CHAT Rev. James Deters

***HYMN** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

#556

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23 (p.491); 1 John 3:16-24 (p.1105) & John 10:11-18 (p.978)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

On insert

PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Jesus, Lead Thou On

P. Manz

***DOXOLOGY**

#809

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

How can we express our thanks, O God, for the one who laid down life itself in witness to your love for all people? We are aware that many have not experienced that love. We see their need, and we want to respond. Use what we offer to you to bring healing and peace to others not of this fold. Draw us together as one flock in the care of one shepherd, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** Praise Him! Praise Him! verses 1, 3

#96

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

We are invited to make God's house our home.

We are sent out into God's world to serve.

God has been with us through life's most foreboding valleys.

We have been equipped to help others on their journeys.

When we ask God for what we need, God provides.

When we are obedient, we know God abides in us.

God leads us by still waters and restores our souls.

God knows us better than we know ourselves.

God's love in Jesus Christ has blessed us.

We have received the gift of God's own Spirit.

Surely goodness and mercy will pursue us through life.

We will dwell in the house of our Good Shepherd.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO BENEDICTION** God Be With You

POSTLUDE A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

SINGERS Becca Nelson, Lynn Adams, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

VMIX Rob Sanders **SOUND** Jenny Delnay

PRODUCTION Hannah Deters

TECH SUPPORT Ernie Bliss

Church office hours Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon

Rev. James Deters, Pastor upccpastor@gmail.com

Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant kate.uppc@gmail.com

Church office phone 715-682-3093

Website: <https://upcchurch.org>

Like us on Facebook at United Presbyterian Congregational Church

Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection

#840

P. Manz



United Presbyterian/Congregational Church

214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

PASTOR: Reverend James Deters

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger

AFFIRMATION

Lord, your love is so great that no matter what we do or what we say, you will love us for who we are. When we do wrong you forgive us and help us follow you again. When we are afraid, angry, sad, distressed, disappointed, prideful, grieving, ashamed, surprised, peaceful or joyful you are there, and we can speak to you through prayer. You are slow to anger and you created the world, So we can experience love. You speak to us through the Bible, reminding us of your promises, intentions, and feelings. You act through the Church and inspire us into action to help others. You teach us to bring hope to others when we feel scared or threatened.

The Sacrament gives us hope for the future, and reassurance of promises kept, like the excitement felt when a newborn baby is baptized.

Jesus has been your Son from the beginning of time. He came to save us from our sins and is both fully human and fully God.

The Holy Spirit is our connection to Jesus, who in turn leads us to you. The Holy Spirit is our insight into mercy and teaches us all we need to know about the tremendous power of Grace.

Lord help us find you when we are lost, do what is right, and forgive us when we do wrong.

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Lord, your love is so great that no matter what we do or what we say, you will love us for who we are. When we do wrong you forgive us and help us follow you again. When we are afraid, angry, sad, distressed, disappointed, prideful, grieving, ashamed, surprised, peaceful or joyful you are there, and we can speak to you through prayer. You are slow to anger and you created the world, So we can experience love. You speak to us through the Bible, reminding us of your promises, intentions, and feelings. You act through the Church and inspire us into action to help others. You teach us to bring hope to others when we feel scared or threatened.

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Psalm 23

p.491

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

1 John 3:16-24

p.1105

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before

God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

John 10:11-18

p.978

"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. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

ACTIVITIES

April 28 5:30 pm Virtual Session meeting

BIRTHDAYS

28 Lorrie Guskie
29 Tim Fridsma, Lori Mahnke
30 Elaine Kirke

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to info@upcchurch.org.

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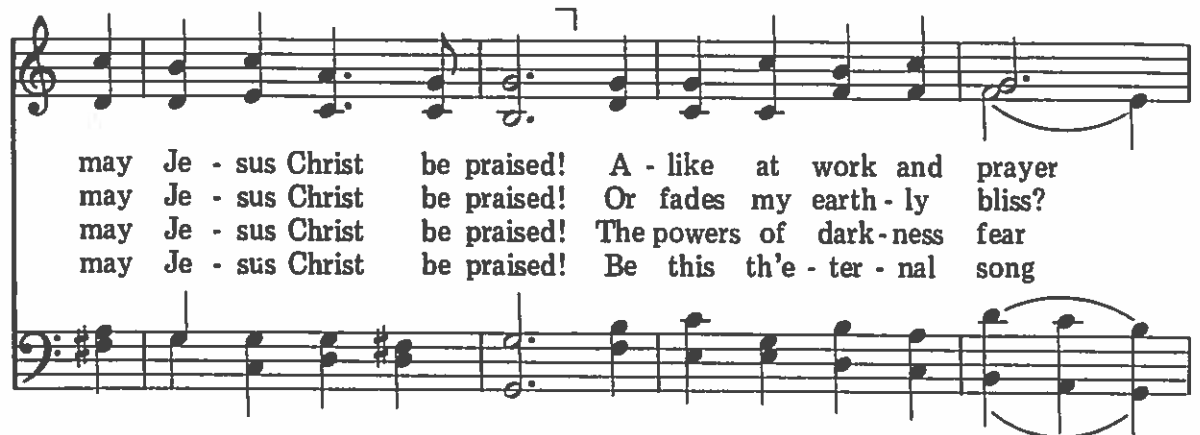
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When Morning Gilds the Skies 99

In the morning I will sing of your love. Ps. 59:16



1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2. Does sad - ness fill my mind? A sol - ace here I find,
3. The night be - comes as day, when from the heart we say,
4. Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or fades my earth - ly bliss?
may Je - sus Christ be praised! The powers of dark - ness fear
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this th'e - ter - nal song



to Je - sus I re - pair, may Je - sus. Christ be praised!
My com - fort still is this, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long, may Je - sus Christ be praised!

WORDS: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Würzburg, 1828; tr. Edward Caswall, 1854
MUSIC: Joseph Barnby, 1868

LAUDES 1
6

96 Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise him for his surpassing greatness. Ps. 150:2

1. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless-ed Re-deem - er! Sing, O
 2. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless-ed Re-deem - er! For our
 3. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless-ed Re-deem - er! Heaven - ly

Earth, his won - der - ful love pro - claim! Hail him! hail him!
 sins he suf-fered, and bled and died; he our Rock, our
 por - tals loud with ho - san - nas ring! Je - sus, Sav - ior,

high-est arch-an-gels in glo - ry; strength and hon - or give to his
 hope of e - ter - nal sal - va - tion, hail him! hail him! Je - sus the
 reign-eth for-ev - er and ev - er; crown him! crown him! Proph-et and

ho - ly name! Like a shep - herd Je - sus will guard his chil - dren,
 Cru - ci - fied. Sound his prais - es! Je - sus who bore our sor - rows;
 Priest and King! Christ is com - ing! o - ver the world vic - to - rious,

556 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Jn. 15:13

1. Je - sus, thy bound - less love to me no thought can reach, no
 2. O, grant that noth - ing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure
 3. In suf - fer - ing be thy love my peace, in weak - ness be thy

tongue de - clare; O draw my thank - ful heart to thee,
 love a - lone; O, may thy love pos - sess me whole,
 love my power; and when the storms of life shall cease,

and reign with - out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly, thine a -
 my joy, my treas - ure, and my crown! All cold - ness from my
 O Je - sus, in that fi - nal hour, be thou my rod and

lone, I am; be thou a - lone my con - stant flame.
 heart re - move; my ev - ery act, word, thought, be love.
 staff and guide, and draw me safe - ly to thy side!