

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 3rd, 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (silent congregational preparation for worship)

PRELUDE Prelude in G Minor *J. S. Bach/Ed. C. Koch*

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

How awesome to gather before God!

We are here to celebrate with wide-eyed wonder.

The God of all worlds is with us.

Praise God for this season of Easter.

Praise God for all the signs of new life.

Praise God for all we can do together.

Praise God for the life and ministry of Jesus.

Praise God for all who share that ministry today.

Christ came to offer us abundant life.

We are here today to reclaim that gift.

We gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

We want to follow in the steps of Jesus.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

Let us hear your voice today, O Shepherd. Call our names and claim us as your own.

Lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Comfort those who suffer pain and loss.

Assure all who are afraid. Lead us in right paths for your name's sake. We have known

your goodness and mercy in so many times and places. We open ourselves now to

receive these gifts again. Unlock within us the barriers that keep us from recognizing and

appreciating all the evidence of your love that surrounds us. Amen.

***HYMN** I Sing the Mighty Power of God **#52**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, we do not want to admit that our possessions possess us. Yet we do seem

captive to all the things we have acquired and all the things we want. We are

reluctant to share too much, lest we be deprived of the comforts we cherish. We do

not want to suffer for our faith. There are limits to our willingness to follow Jesus.

O God, help us trust you beyond these limits. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God provides for us as a good shepherd provides for a flock of sheep, seeking green pastures and still waters for us even in periods of famine and drought. In fearful times, amid loss, the Shepherd's care is always available. Surely God's goodness and mercy will restore all who give up their own pretensions in order to live in community, with glad and generous hearts.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#805

CHORAL ANTHEM 10,000 Reasons

Myrin & Redman

CHILDREN'S CHAT: Sara Heisler

***HYMN** He Leadeth Me

#635

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23 (p.491); 1 Peter 2:19-25 (p.1105) & John 10:1-10 (p.977)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

#15

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Andante

W. A. Mozart

***DOXOLOGY**

#809

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

Thank you, God, for this abundant life we enjoy, not in the things we possess but in the relationships you offer and the opportunities for sharing that you provide. May all that we here dedicate to you be distributed in ways that meet human need and offer praise to you. Extend our outreach beyond our vision, that we may live in awe and wonder before you, marveling before your goodness and mercy. Amen.

***HYMN** Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us

#522

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

You have been claimed by God, our Good Shepherd.

Know God, not as a stranger, but as a friend.

God is our shepherd; we shall not want.

God leads us daily and restores our souls.

Easter continues, for Christ lives in us.

Jesus came that we might have abundant life.

Daily we receive God's goodness and mercy.

Our cups overflow with God's generosity

Let us devote ourselves to the apostles' teachings.

Let us pray and break bread together.

**We find our lives in giving them to others.
In Christ, we discover the joy of service. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

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

#840

POSTLUDE Allegro Maestoso

G. F. Handel/Arr. D. Johnson

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

SINGERS Becca Nelson, Julie Radke, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

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

Jill Zifko, Family Ministry Coordinator jillzifko.igmupcc@gmail.com

Church office phone 715-682-3093

Large print bulletins, children's bulletins, and aids for the hearing impaired are available, as are a nursery and children's room for families who need a quiet space for babies and young children. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Website: <https://upcchurch.org>

Like us on Facebook at United Presbyterian Congregational Church

Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection



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

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver

of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in the one holy catholic and
Apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the
dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Psalm 23

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 Peter 2:19-25

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 10:1-10

"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.

BIRTHDAYS

5-3 Hailey Moore
5-5 Tabor Torres
5-6 Christian Fuhrman, Marian Penn, Katherine Swanson
5-8 Evan Kauppila & Kyle Rafert

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.