#### April 25, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Easter 10:30 AM \*Those who are able, please stand WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

#### WELCOME

We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We hope the service will be a blessing to you. This is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. It is also Earth Day. Today we focus on things that we need to touch in order to believe.

**MUSICAL PRELUDE:** "A Song of Faith" Pianist Mavis Baldwin

The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Marina Smith given by Penna Smith

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE (In Unison)

Jesus said, "I came that you may have life, and have it abundantly." Even though we have wandered and have become lost, the shepherd calls to us. We can place our trust in his loving care. For we are the sheep of his pasture, blessed and given hope. Just when we think we can go no further, Jesus the Good Shepard, call to us, brining us safely back into the fold of Grace and Mercy. This is when we know we are loved completely and forgiven. Amen

### **INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Jesus the Good Shepherd calls our names to come and follow him. People: We need to hear the word of hope from God.

Leader: Thanks be to God who has heard our cries, healed our wounds, and restored our lives.

People: His voice, speaking our names, draws us to him.

Leader: We follow without fear, for the shepherd cares for us.

People: Our hearts rejoice and we can place our trust in the Good Shepherd. Leader: It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls. People: It is Christ who gives us hope and peace. Praise be to Christ our Lord. AMEN.

GATHERING SONG "I need Thee Every Hour" UMH 397

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (In Unison)

Shepherding God, you know how easy it is for us to stray. We wander off so easily these days. Remind us again that you lead us in gentle paths and by quiet waters. Bring us into your fold. Lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Help us see the way we should go, the way we should live. Help us hear

your voice calling our name. Be with us in our needs this day as we stand at your gates as you call our names. Bring us safely on the journey we are on and strengthen us so that we may be all that you intend us to be. Amen

# Time with God's Children:

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS (Prayer request forms are available at the back of the sanctuary)

# PASTORAL PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE Amen, Amen, Amen

# **GIVING OF OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS**

<u>OFFERTORY</u>	"I Believe"	Chanc	el Choir:
DOXOLOGY	"Praise God. From Whom	All Blessings Flow"	UMH 95

### **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGING**

Thank You Lord, for all the wonderful gifts with which you have blessed our lives. Take these gifts, these tokens and use them to build your realm, to heal the broken hearted, bind up those who are wounded, welcome the stranger, become the gate of hope. Give us the depth of faith and hope that we may offer your love and hope to others, for it is in the name of the Risen Christ that we pray and offer our gifts to You and our Church, our Community and our World. AMEN.

SONG OF COMMITM	ENT "The Gift of Love"	UMH 408
Psalter Reading:	Psalm 23	UMH 754

#### Affirmation of Faith: Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

<u>GLORIA PATRI</u> (We use this ancient response to praise God for the Bible) UMH 70 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

**<u>SCRIPTURE</u>** John 10: 1-10 and 1 Peter 2: 19-25

SHARING THE STORY "Jesus the Good Shepherd"

Pastor Joyce

#### GO NOW TO SERVE

#### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

Monday April 26, 2021 Free Lunch 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Food Pantry Volunteers Mandatory Trailing May 1, 1:00 PM

SENDING SONG "Savior, Like a Shepard Lead Us" UMH 381

#### THE SENDING FORTH

You have been given your rest, now go and proclaim with your lives the good news of Jesus Christ. Be a Good Shepherd to someone today. The good shepherd knows each of us by name and joins us in prayer for the World today. AMEN.

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

"God of the Ages" Pianist Mavis Baldwin

Prayer List: Bucky Baldwin, the family of Peter Rovezini, the Family of Babe Baldwin, The Family Melvin Veeder, The family of Karen Holly, Rich and Sylvia Snow, Tina Parry, Jason Topliff, Carol Johnson, Donna Thompson, Jeff Davis, Don Williams, Connie Shepard. Prayers for all who are suffering from Covid, and any other prayers in your heart this day. Prayers for our World.

\*\*\* If you have a joy or a prayer request or would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain group, please call Carol Johnson at 518-844-3354\*\*\*

