



April 21, 2024 **4th Sunday of Eastertide**
Service of Word & Table

† Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr Eugene Englert

Greeting

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.
Thanks be to God!

† Call to Worship

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He knows us, and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.
He speaks and we listen for his voice.

Let us worship God!

† Opening Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA



1. The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2. **Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my**
 3. Per - verse and fool - ish, oft I strayed, but
 4. **In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with**
 5. Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight; thy
 6. **And so through all the length of days, thy**



good - ness fail - eth nev - er. I noth - ing lack if
ran - somed soul he lead - eth; and where the ver - dant
 yet in love he sought me; and on his shoul - der
thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port
good - ness fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

† Invocation

We are your people, O God – the sheep of your pasture, the flock you have gathered.
 Lead us beside still waters; teach us the way of righteousness; and feed us at your table;
 through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. **Amen.**

Let us sing praise to God.
We will continually praise God's holy name.

† Gloria Patri

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Paul M. Vasile

1
 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me, and to the
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men. World with-out

3
 Son, whose grace has par - doned me, and to the Spir - it, whose love has
 end, with - out end. A - men. World with-out end, with-out

6
 set me free, As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.
 end. A - men.

1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.

5
 Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.

Children's Moment

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.

Hymn

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY



1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, Much we need thy ten-der care;
 2. **We are thine; do thou be - friend us; Be the guardian of our way;**
 3. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor; Ear - ly let us do thy will;



In thy pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, For our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless-ed
Keep thy flock; from sin de - fend us; Seek us when we go a - stray. Blessed
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, With thy love our bos-oms fill. Bless-ed



Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, thine we are; Bless-ed
Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Hear thy chil - dren when they pray; Blessed
 Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still; Bless-ed



Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Hear thy chil - dren when they pray.
 Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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.

† Hymn

Gentle Shepherd

GENTLE SHEPHERD

Gen-tle Shep-herd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.

8
Gentle Shep-herd, come and feed us, for we need your strength from day to day.

16
There's no oth-er we can turn to who can help us face an-oth-er day; Gentle

25
Shep-herd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.

† Gospel Lesson

John 10:11-18

“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.”

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Greg Gray

Sharing our Concerns

For all these persons and all who are in need.
Hold your people near, O God.

Sharing our Joys

We give thanks to God for these blessings.
Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer

Shepherd Me, O God

SHEPHERD ME, O GOD



Call to Confession

If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God’s deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore let us confess our sin.

Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

Response

I Need You to Survive

David Frazier

The musical score is written in a single system with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning of the first staff, a section marked '3' at the start of the second staff, a section marked '7' at the start of the fourth staff, and a section marked '10' at the start of the sixth staff. The sixth staff begins with a fermata and the instruction 'Last time'. The seventh staff begins with a section marked '13' and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'I need you, you need me, we're all a part of God's body, Stand with me, agree with me, we're all a part of God's body, It is God's will that every need be supplied. You are important to me. I need you to survive. You are important to me. I need you to survive. I pray for you, you pray for me, I love you, I need you to survive. D.S. I won't harm you with words from my mouth, I love you, I need you to survive.'

Declaration of Forgiveness

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. This is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

† Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

Response to the Peace

May Peace Flow

Mark A. Miller

6 May peace flow through me as mu-sic through an in - strument, let it flow through me
12 like the warmth from the sun, may peace flow through me so that I may be a ves -
- sel of the love of God for ev - 'ry one, for ev - 'ry one.

Invitation to the Offering

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the goods of the world and sees a brother or sister in need, yet refuses to help? With love for God and neighbor, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory

Offertory on "St. Columba"

Christina Becket

† Doxology

Easter Doxology

OLD 100th

5 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with one ac - cord. The
life laid down, the life re - stored; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

† Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You plant green pastures where we might be fed; you pool waters which nourish us forever; you shape paths which lead us into your presence; all that you made is beautiful and good and given to those created in your image. Sadly, our wisdom leads us to choose hunger over the feast you prepare for us; we thirst in the deserts when we could drink deeply from your grace; we stumble off those paths leading to your holy presence. Yet you continue to seek us out, to bring us home to your kingdom, preparing a feast for those who will not respond to your gracious invitation.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly God, O God of time and space. All earth and sea and

6 sky a-bove bear wit-ness to your grace. Ho-san-na in the high-est heav'n, cre-

11 a-tion sings your praise. And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name al-ways.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics. The second staff starts at measure 6 and contains the second line of lyrics. The third staff starts at measure 11 and contains the third line of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, one with you in every respect. For your name's sake, he left the green pastures to climb the garbage heap of Golgotha; he waded out of the living waters to be drenched with the abuse of the world; he wandered the streets of the kingdom covered with the dust of sin and death to lead us into the kingdom of joy.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Sing Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain! Sing

5
Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain!

The musical notation consists of two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains the lyrics "Sing Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain! Sing". The second staff, starting with a measure rest, contains the lyrics "Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain!".

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them to be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

A - men, a - men, O Ho - ly One! Ho - san - na and A - men! A -

5
men, a - men, O Ho - ly One, Ho - san - na and A - men!

The musical notation consists of two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains the lyrics "A - men, a - men, O Ho - ly One! Ho - san - na and A - men! A -". The second staff, starting with a measure rest, contains the lyrics "men, a - men, O Ho - ly One, Ho - san - na and A - men!".

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Fraction

We break this bread remembering the brokenness of our world and declaring our hope of wholeness and shalom is in Christ.

We pour this wine, remembering the pain and bloodshed of our world and declaring our hope in the overflowing love of Christ.

Giving of the Bread and Cup

An Open Table! When we celebrate Holy Communion, we are all guests at the table, with Jesus himself as our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of the Holy Communion is open to *all* who wish to know the presence of Christ and the community of God's people. This is a *joyful* feast for *all* the people of God.

We will receive communion at stations by intinction. Please come forward to one of the communion stations by the center aisle, receive a piece of bread, dip it in the chalice, partake, and return to your seat by the outside aisles. All cups have *non-alcoholic grape juice*.

Prayer after Receiving

Eternal God, We give you thanks for this Holy Mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Closing Hymn

Good Shepherd, We Are Not Alone

DUKE STREET



1. Good Shepherd, we are not a - lone, For you pro - tect and love your own.
2. An - oth - er shep-herd might turn back And flee at dan-ger's first at - tack;
3. A thief may well de - stroy and steal, But you, Good Shep-herd, save and heal.
4. You gath - er sheep from far and wide From folds we know and from out - side.

9



And we, re - spond - ing, know your voice; We hearyou call - ing and re - joice.
But you laid down your ver - y life A lov-ing shep-herd's sac - ri - fice.
You lead your sheep to pas - ture land, To life a - bun - dant, by your hand.
One flock, one Shep - herd, there will be A lov-ing, blest com - mu - ni - ty.

† Benediction

Postlude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr E.L. Ashford

WISE FOR MENTAL HEALTH COVENANT

We, Enfield UCC, commit ourselves to providing and promoting education, activities, and resources for individuals and families, as well as advocating for legislative action and collaborating with other mental health organizations. To that end, we joyously extend our church's compassionate welcome and love to members and non-members alike who experience mental illnesses or are touched by them.

WELCOME STATEMENT

We covenant with God and each other to live as Jesus has taught. Following God's example, we strive to be a Christian Community welcoming you no matter who you are. No matter your physical or mental ability, race, ethnicity, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, marital status, or economic status, you are truly welcome. We acknowledge past hurts individuals may have experienced and look to offer a safe, non-judgmental space for all who want to know God in Christ. This covenant includes the right to participate equally and fully in all aspects of the life and ministry of this congregation. In a spirit of understanding, we strive for collaboration as we seek to become the fully inclusive community of faith that God calls us to be.

ENFIELD UCC GUN POLICY

Gun violence continues to exist in the United States as a public health issue, one that requires reform in policy and culture. Enfield UCC is a gun-free zone, and no one may bring a firearm on the premises unless explicitly authorized by the pastor and/or moderator.

The United Church of Christ is a proponent of gun safety and gun control and supports policies including:

- strengthen the licensing and registration of handgun transfers
- restrict firearm possession by persons convicted of violent crimes and by juveniles
- limit handgun purchases to one per month
- strengthen regulation of gun dealers
- increase civil and criminal liability for misuse of firearms
- prohibit semiautomatic assault weapons, Saturday night specials, explosive ammunition and large capacity magazines
- require gun safety devices
- require training in the safe use of firearms as a condition of licensing

We encourage everyone to be in touch with legislators, urging them to pass legislation that restricts the sale of firearms.