



April 26, 2026

Good Shepherd Sunday

Service of Word

† Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr Eugene Eglert

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

Jesus said 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.

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

Good Shepherd, you call us by name, and we know your voice. Open the gate for us, that we may come and go freely, have life, and have it abundantly.
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

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.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.



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;

5



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

9



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

13



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.

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
 he leadeth me beside the still waters.
 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me
 in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
 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.
 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
 thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
 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.

† Hymn

The Lord's My Shepherd

BROTHER JAMES' AIR



1. The Lord's my shep - herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in
 2. My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make with -
 3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for
 4. My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed in pre - sence of my foes; my
 5. Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me, and



pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ter's by; he
in the paths of right eous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake; with -
 thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still; for
head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows; my
 in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing place shall be; and



lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
in the paths of right eous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing place shall be.

† Gospel Lesson

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.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

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.

Prayers of the People

May the light of Christ shine upon them.
May the light of Christ shine upon them.

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.

Prayer Response

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.

† Passing of the Peace

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

Response to the Peace

The Lord is My Shepherd

Howard Goodall

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He mak-eth me to lie down in green
pas-tures: He lead - eth me be-side the still wa-ters.

8

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the hymn 'The Lord is My Shepherd'. It consists of two staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A small number '8' is positioned between the two staves. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics, also ending with a double bar line.

Invitation to the Offering

Church, our God has prepared a table before us and our cup overflows. So, let us give generously from our common wealth, as our way of praising God and giving to those in need.

Offertory

The Little Shepherd

Claude Debussy

† Doxology

Easter Doxology

OLD 100th

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.

5

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the 'Easter Doxology'. It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A small number '5' is positioned between the two staves. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics, also ending with a double bar line.

† Prayer of Dedication

Holy and generous God, you have anointed us and we are yours. Bless these tithes and offerings that they may become green pastures and still waters for any and all who need your comfort and restoration. **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.



And we, re - spond - ing, know your voice; We hear you call - ing and re - jice.
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

Little Lamb

Jule Styne

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.