



# Bethlehem

## United Methodist Church

APRIL 25, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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### GATHERING AND PRAISE

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CALL TO WORSHIP

*“Let All Things Now Living” (TFWS #2008)*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.  
God’s banners fly o’er us; God’s light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

OPENING PRAYER

Everlasting God, who out of the greatness of your love sent your Son to care for us as the great Good Shepherd, who lived and died and was raised from the dead, our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord. Grant that we may humble ourselves before you today that we might express our love through our words and deeds of concern and care for all those we find in need. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

HYMN

*“For the Beauty of the Earth” (UMH #92)*

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best Gift Devine, to the world so freely given,  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

CALL TO PRAYER

*“His Name Is Wonderful” (UMH #174)*

His name is wonderful, his name is wonderful, his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.  
He is the mighty King, Master of everything; His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.  
He’s the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages, almighty God is he;  
Bow down before him, love and adore him, his name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

MORNING 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.**

## THANKSGIVING for OFFERING, TITHES, AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

Jerry Aultman

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## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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SCRIPTURE

*Psalm 23 (CEB)*

The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing. **2** He lets me rest in grassy meadows; he leads me to restful waters; **3** he keeps me alive. He guides me in proper paths for the sake of his good name. **4** Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no danger because you are with me. Your rod and your staff—they protect me. **5** You set a table for me right in front of my enemies. You bathe my head in oil; my cup is so full it spills over! **6** Yes, goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the Lord's house as long as I live.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

John Rutter

GOSPEL LESSON

*John 10:11-16 (CEB)*

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. **12** When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. That's because he isn't the shepherd; the sheep aren't really his. So the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. **13** He's only a hired hand and the sheep don't matter to him.

**14** “I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, **15** just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I give up my life for the sheep. **16** I have other sheep that don't belong to this sheep pen. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice and there will be one flock, with one shepherd.

SERMON

*“Jesus, The Good Shepherd”*

Rev. David Lord

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## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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HYMN

*“He Leadeth Me” (UMH #128)*

**He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!**

**Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;**

**His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

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## SENDING FORTH

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BENEDICTION

CLOSING

*“Shalom to You” (UMH #666)*

**Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.**

**May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.**

**In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**