

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

Online Worship Bulletin

May 3, 2020

### WELCOME

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Can you hear the voice of God?

***We hear God calling us by name.***

Are you troubled or distressed?

***We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.***

Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

***We come to praise our Shepherding God,  
whose pathways and doors lead to life.***

#### OPENING PRAYER

Shepherding God,

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.

Enliven this time of worship,

that we may find true life

as we join with others:

praising your name,

celebrating your great goodness,

and sharing your love for all people.

***Amen.***

#### HYMN

#### ***My Shepherd Will Supply My Need***

***My Shepherd will supply my need:***

***Jehovah is His Name;***

***In pastures fresh He makes me feed,***

***Beside the living stream.***

***He brings my wandering spirit back***

***When I forsake His ways,***

***And leads me, for His mercy's sake,***

***In paths of truth and grace.***

***When I walk through the shades of death***

***His presence is my stay;***

*One word of His supporting grace  
Drives all my fears away.  
His hand, in sight of all my foes,  
Doth still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows,  
His oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God  
Attend me all my days;  
O may Thy house be my abode,  
And all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest,  
While others go and come;  
No more a stranger, nor a guest,  
But like a child at home.*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Shepherding God, be with us in our need. Like sheep who have gone astray—we have not heeded your voice, calling us to follow the right paths, beckoning us to lie down and be restored; we have acted as if our salvation lies in busyness and control. We do not want to be sheep—dependent on a shepherd for everything. We want to do it alone—to maintain our independence. Forgive us for rejecting your shepherding care and your love and guidance. Forgive us for our need to do it by ourselves, to be separate from the flock. Forgive us for doubting your presence in times of trouble. Forgive us our despair in the face of seemingly unrelenting evil and death. Lead us back to the path of life.*

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Jesus said, I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly. In so confessing, we have returned to the shepherd, the guardian of our souls who welcomes us with open arms and a glad heart.

*We know that the shepherd of our lives will never abandon us, and is always calling our name, and unfailingly loves and forgives us. Amen.*

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

John 10:1-10

#### **SERMON**

*Boundaries & Gates*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*This is the gospel which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.*

*We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **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.*

## **DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

### **HYMN**

*Arise, Your Light Is come!*

*Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God,  
Which shines on you today.*

*Arise, your light has come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
Proclaim the captive's liberty,  
Good tidings to the poor.*

*Arise, your light has come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
Bind up the brokenhearted ones  
And comfort those who mourn.*

***Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's power will make us strong.***

## **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Today's written prayers are by Joanne Carlson Brown for the *ministrymatters.com* website.