

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

4th Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Variations on St. Columba* Bruce Campbell

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: The Good Shepherd calls us by name and leads us.

People: We follow him because we know his voice.

Liturgist: Jesus said, "I am the gate; those who come in by me will be saved. Wherever they go, they will find green pastures."

People: Jesus came that those who believe in him may have life, and have it abundantly.

Liturgist: Jesus is the Good Shepherd, the shepherd of our souls.

All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

*HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* No. 381

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Jesus is our shepherd, our gate and our lamb.**

Through his resurrection you have brought us into your pasture. Guide us to your clear streams and tame the wolf at our gate. This we pray through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Psalm 23*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*SUNG RESPONSE *He Lives* (refrain only) No. 310

He lives, (He lives) He lives, (He lives) Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, (He lives) He lives (He lives), salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 Corinthians 15 and Colossians 1 No. 888

CHOIR ANTHEM *Shepherd's Psalm* arr. Mary McDonald

GOSPEL READING *John 10:1-10*
MESSAGE *"The Gate of Life"* Pastor Janet Sattel

*HYMN *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* No. 138

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession

Unison: **Gentle Shepherd, you lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our greed and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others that seem to have it all. Forgive us for not following your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are your sheep, and you are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to your path, to loving you and loving our neighbors. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.**

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *Jesus, Remember Me* (sing twice) No. 488

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* Wilbur Held

*Congregational *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* No. 298

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.**

*HYMN *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* No. 128

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Good Shepherd knows the sheep, and the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep so that the sheep may live.

People: **We are part of the flock, we are part of Christ's body. In Christ, we find wholeness and restoration.**

Pastor: Go forth and share this Good News.

All: **Amen!**

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE *Cornet Voluntary* Anonymous

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Rowena Fink

2023 Mission Support
International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery,
Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM),
Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP †
Celebration of Faith



The Gate of Life

April 30, 2023

4th Sunday of Easter

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042
church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

"The Gate of Life"
Psalm 23, John 10:1-10
Pastor Janet Sattel

Psalm 23 was written by King David. His descendant, Jesus, brings us the message in today's Gospel reading.

When David wrote this, he wanted us to focus, not on what we are doing, but on what the shepherd is doing. The focus is not on what we do as a sheep, but on what the Lord does as the Shepherd.

Jesus is the initiator; He is the one who calls us and draws us to himself. John Wesley called this "prevenient grace." Prevenient grace is that grace which always surrounds us; it comes to us before we ever realize it is there.

The shepherds stayed with their flock both by day and by night protecting them from wild animals and robbers.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep ... I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved." The Good Shepherd did indeed lay down his life for us – and all who follow him will be saved.

Jesus tells us that if we hear and recognize his voice, then we will follow him. He also says that the thief will try to steal and kill and destroy. There are many other voices that lead people astray. The thief comes to destroy and to kill, but Jesus has come that we might have abundant life!

Jesus goes ahead of us and prepares the way for us. He knows the best path for us in life.

The Good Shepherd will let us rest in green pastures, He will lead us beside quiet waters, and He will restore our soul. And when we feel like we are walking through the darkest valley, we need not fear - for God is with us.

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are committed to:

- ▶Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

Calendar for Week of 4/30/2023

SUNDAY

- 8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]
- 9:45 - Sunday School
- 11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]
- 11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]
- 4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]
- Youth Group - see Youth Page in the Announcements
- 5-8 - Lebanon Big Swing Band Concert [WC]

MONDAY

- 10-12 - Staff Meeting
- 6:00 - Private [Sanctuary]
- 6:00 - CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]
- 7:00 - Staff Parish Relations [Lounge]

TUESDAY

- 11-1 - Free Noon Meal @ LCCM
- 7:00 - Learn & Discern [Lounge]
- 7:00 - Board of Trustees

WEDNESDAY

- 8:30-11:30 - MLLC [rms 200/202]
- 7:00 - Celebrate Recovery
- 7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [Sanctuary]

THURSDAY

- 5:00 - Contemporary Design Team
- 5:30 - Traditional Design Team

FRIDAY

- 12:00-6: - LGM Set up

SATURDAY

- 9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal
- 1-5pm - Living Gift market
- 5-7 - Roast Beef dinner

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