



**Fourth Sunday after Easter**  
April 26, 2026 10:30 a.m.

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Assurance" J. Bert Carlson

*(\* Indicates that all are invited to stand)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)**

One: Come, walk in green pastures.

**All: We follow the Shepherd.**

One: Come, lie down in green pastures.

**All: We trust the Shepherd.**

One: Come, dine at the table of abundance.

**All: We are fed by the Shepherd.**

One: Come, dwell in God's house.

**All: We live in the Shepherd's care.**

\*GATHERING HYMN “God is My Shepherd” #479 New Century Hymnal vv.1-4  
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

**God is my shepherd, I’ll not want, I feed in pastures green.  
God grants me rest and bids me drink from waters calm and clean,  
Through daily tasks, I’m blessed and led by One I have not seen.**

**Restored to life each morning new, I rise up from the dust  
To follow God whose presence gives me confidence and trust.  
I praise the name of God today; in God I put my trust.**

**When I must pass through shadowed vale, where loss and death await,  
I will not fear for God is there, my shepherd strong and great,  
Whose rod and staff will comfort me and all my fears abate.**

**No enemy can overcome, no power on earth defeat  
The ones anointed by God’s grace and fed with manna sweet.  
My cup is filled and overflows as I my Savior greet.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>(2)</sup>

Shepherding God, we confess we often take your care for granted.  
**In the midst of your many blessings, we complain of not having enough.**  
In the presence of danger, we fail to trust your abiding love.  
**When you set a table before us, we turn aside from you.**  
Call us back into your care and help us trust your gracious presence,  
**that our actions may proclaim your ways of love to the world.**

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, believe the Good News! Through the gift of Jesus Christ,  
God provides grace upon grace, now and forevermore.  
**Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE “God is My Shepherd” v.5

**Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;  
And where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwelling place will be.  
My shepherd blesses, cares, and leads through all eternity.**

PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

## LISTENING

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23                      Pew Bible pp.435-436  
A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON    Sarah Fredriksen McCann

### SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION: “My Shepherd is the Living God” #247  
*(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)*

**My shepherd is the living God, I therefore nothing need;  
In pastures fair, near pleasant streams you settle me to feed.  
You bring my wandering spirit back when I forsake your ways,  
And lead me for your mercy’s sake in paths of truth and grace.**

**When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay;  
A word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.**

**The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others come and go—  
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.**

## RESPONDING

*We respond to God’s Word through our prayers and our gifts.*

### NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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 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.**

OFFERTORY "Meditation in G Minor" Simon Lesley  
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE (tune: "Lasst Uns Erfreuen")

**Praise God, the Giver and the Gift,  
Hearts, minds and voices now uplift, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the breath of glad surprise, Freeing, uplifting, opening eyes.  
Three-In-Oneness, Love Communing, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SENDING

*With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.*

\*COMMISSIONING HYMN "Savior, Like a Shepherd" #252  
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need your tender care;  
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are.**

**We are yours, in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;  
Keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray,  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.**

**Let us always seek your favor; let us always do your will;  
Jesus Christ our only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.**

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "In God is Glory" J. S. Bach

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Worship Endnotes:

1. Adapted from [www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com)
2. Adapted from [www.re-worshipblogspot.com](http://www.re-worshipblogspot.com)

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