

4th Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022



The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

Psalm 23: 1



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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The Family of God Gathers

Prelude

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Please let the prelude be a signal to prepare for worship.

Greetings

Call to Worship †

L: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

P: The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

L: Blessing and honor is yours, O God.

P: Glory to God forever. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn 473 Bulletin page 7

“Blessed Assurance”

Prayer of Confession †

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation; we repent of these hurtful ways. Forgive us, we pray, as we learn to forgive others, and guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon †§

L: God’s mercy flows as abundant as the rains of spring. In Jesus’ name, you are forgiven!

P: You are forgiven! Alleluia!

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

Passing the Peace

Now please take a moment and share the peace with those in your household and/or offer a moment to send prayers of peace to those you love who are not with you.

The Service of the Word

Psalm 23

L: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

P: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

L: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

P: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Gospel

John 10:22–30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.”

Sermon

Sermon Hymn 479 Bulletin page 9

“God Is My Shepherd”

The Response to the Word

Offering

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †§

Divine Shepherd, you anoint us with the oil of gladness; your love overflows our hearts. Accept our offering for the good of the world as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Prayer



Pray - ing, let your spir - it soar, as we're
lay - ing our bur - dens at God's door. With o - pen
hearts our needs in faith we of - fer here, while
pray - ing: God be near.

Text and music: Frank D. Janzow ©1984 Frank D. Janzow, 1993 Sun Day Publications
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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, for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn 245 Bulletin page 10

“The Day of Resurrection”

Benediction †§

L: Go forth to follow paths of righteousness; go forth to follow paths of peace.

P: **God's goodness and mercy will follow us as we serve the risen Lord.**

L: May Christ the Good Shepherd bless and guide you this day and always.

All: Amen!

Postlude

“How Great Thou Art”

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 1 ©2012 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. David Huber • Ministers: All the people of Plymouth • Pianist: Lynn McFadyen • Liturgist: Deb Zehms

We of Plymouth extend to you our hand of fellowship and an invitation to become a member. If you are interested, or have any questions, please speak with or send a note to Pastor David or our Moderator, Barb Kleist. Our table always has room for more.

Cross Illumination for May is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in honor of Plymouth congregation.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, May 8

Prayers for the People

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

Tuesday, May 10

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, May 15

OCWM offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

We pray for:

- The General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ Rev. John Dorhauer and Wisconsin Conference Minister Rev. Franz Rigert, along with all UCC staff at the national and Conference level
- These individuals/families: Judy Insteness, Rob & Linda Jaenke, Larry & Barb Kleist, Susie Kleist, Charline Kozlowski

Blessed Assurance

*Acts 17:30-31; Rev. 7:9-14**Fanny Crosby, 1873; alt.*

1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 bove, filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

After hearing Phoebe Knapp play this tune on the piano, Fanny Crosby composed the poem on the spot. In her almost 95 years, Crosby wrote more than 8,500 gospel hymns and songs.

Tune: ASSURANCE Irr.
Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle ©1982 Jubilate Hymns

Music: Harold Fridell ©1957, 1985 H.W. Gray

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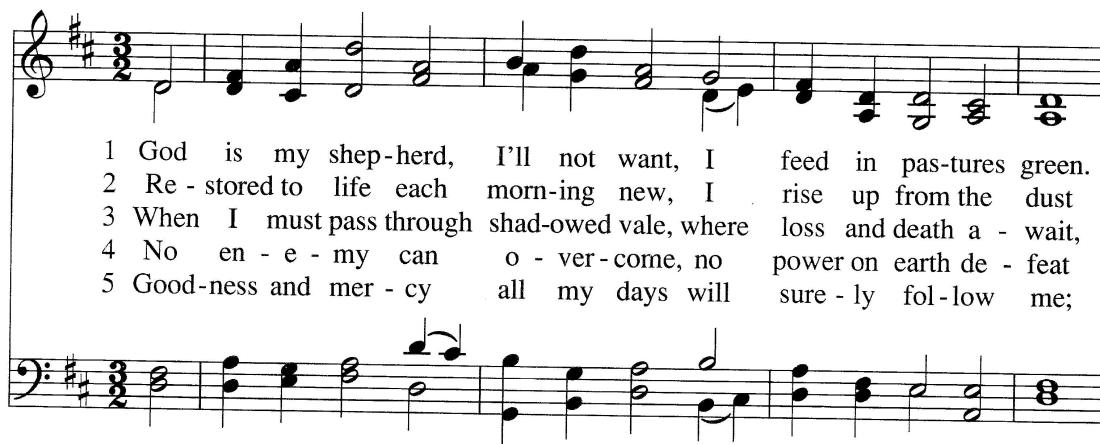
God Is My Shepherd

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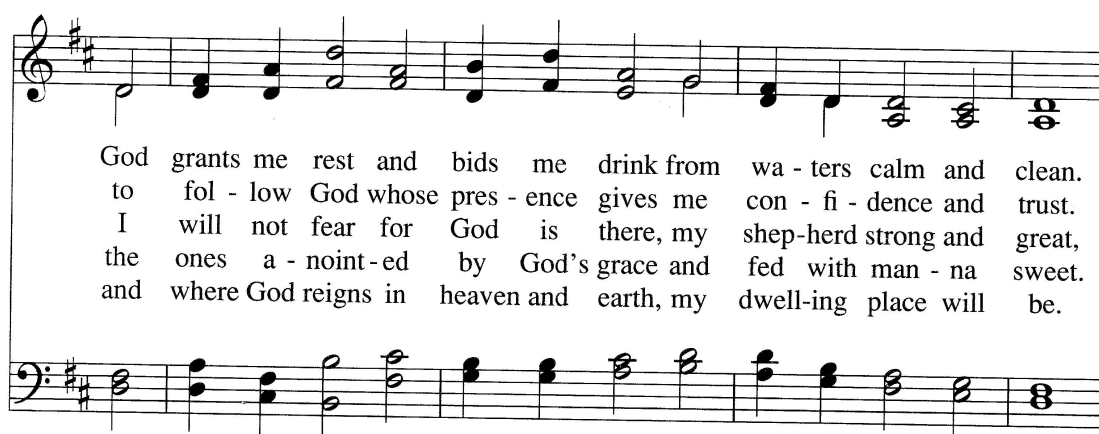
Scottish Psalter, 1650

Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

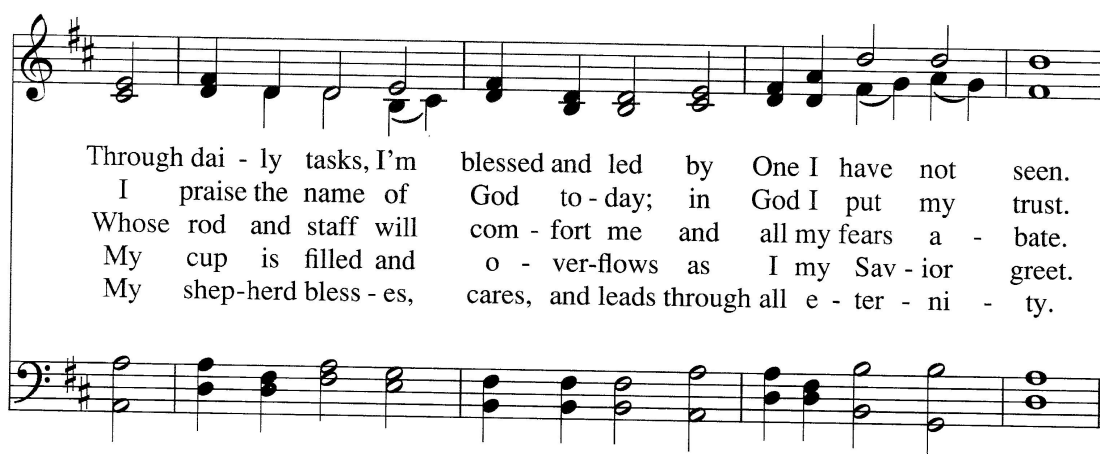
Ps. 23



1 God is my shep-herd, I'll not want, I feed in pas-tures green.
 2 Re - stored to life each morn-ing new, I rise up from the dust
 3 When I must pass through shad-owed vale, where loss and death a - wait,
 4 No en - e - my can o - ver-come, no power on earth de - feat
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my days will sure - ly fol-low me;



God grants me rest and bids me drink from wa - ters calm and clean.
 to fol - low God whose pres - ence gives me con - fi - dence and trust.
 I will not fear for God is there, my shep-herd strong and great,
 the ones a - noint-ed by God's grace and fed with man - na sweet.
 and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwell-ing place will be.



Through dai - ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by One I have not seen.
 I praise the name of God to - day; in God I put my trust.
 Whose rod and staff will com - fort me and all my fears a - bate.
 My cup is filled and o - ver-flows as I my Sav - ior greet.
 My shep-herd bless - es, cares, and leads through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The Scottish Psalter of 1650, developed over a span of 100 years, is still in use today. Its metrical version of Psalm 23 is the most popular entry in this classic work of Protestantism.

Tune: BROTHER JAMES' AIR 8.6.8.6.8.6.
 James Leith Macbeth Bain, c. 1840-1925
 Arr. Gordon Jacob, 1934

Arrangement Copyright © 1934, Oxford University Press.

The Day of Resurrection

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John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
 the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad-ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn.
John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
 Henry T. Smart, 1836

Who we are...

Plymouth UCC is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, since we are all created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status and background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, humor, and blessings of participation in our congregation.

Spiritual Care Package

Question for Reflection

Psalm 23 affirms that God supplies our every need. How do our lives change when we trust this great promise of God?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy God, you have called a people to be your family out of every tribe, language, and nation, to love and serve you daily in a world of beauty, complexity, and diversity. Help us to honor and respect the dignity of difference as we seek to be one with you and each other this day and always. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

O Shepherd of all, you have brought us to the close of another day; for this gift and the blessings we now name, we give you thanks. . . . All that we have and all that we are come from you; and so, trusting in the goodness of your divine care, let us lie down this night in peace, that tomorrow we may rise to greet you in resurrection joy. Amen.

God is still speaking,