

Order of Worship May 8, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Gathering Music: The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want *GTG #801*

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill,
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;

and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Call To Worship

L: God, our gentle shepherd, you have chosen us by name.

C: Lead us, your children, by the still waters.

L: God, our gentle shepherd, your rod and staff bring comfort.

C: Guide us, your people, through the darkest valleys.

L: God, our gentle shepherd, you have prepared a great table.

All: Restore us, your church, with goodness and mercy.

(From Leader, Winter 2013-14. ©2014 MennoMedia.)

Hymn

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

GTG #187

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

2 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.

3 You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and 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.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

Liturgist

May our time of confession be what it's like to approach still waters. May it restore our souls. May it center us, offering a sense of calm amidst the clutter and clamor in our lives. May it open us to ourselves and to God – a God who is always listening.

Prayer of Confession

Creator of the Universe, you made the world in beauty, and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ.

We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

By God's great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Believe the Good News of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ we are loved and befriended by God.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

Message for all God's Children

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading:

23rd Psalm (KJV)

Liturgist

23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

New Testament Reading:

Acts 9:36 – 43

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36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas.[a] She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside

him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Anthem: Shepherd Me, O God

Sermon

Rev. Barbara Macfie

"Don't Miss Out on The Blessings God Wants to Give"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith

Liturgist

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

(United Church of Canada, <http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/creed>)

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

I invite you to give generously as we worship God through sharing our gifts, tithes and offerings.

Doxology

GTG #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore, Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

Lord, we seek to be the sheep of your holy pasture. As we dedicate these offerings, help us to examine carefully the deepest recesses of our own hearts. Guide our ways so that we may share abundantly your love and your compassion with those seeking your pasture. We pray in the name of the Risen One. Amen.

Prayers of People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

GTG #802

1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Benediction

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude

Steve Johnson