

Stories That Matter

Knowing That Voice

May 3, 2026



WELCOME

PRELUDE *All Creatures of Our God and King*

arr. Albrecht

CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the cadence of the Shepherd's voice.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.

We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 381

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving Shepherd, you know our names, and still we wander. You call to us, but we do not always listen. We follow the noise of the world, the voices of fear, comparison, and control, instead of your voice that leads us to life. When we walk through shadows, we forget you are with us. When we hunger for meaning, we look in places that do not satisfy. When you set a table before us, we hesitate, or turn away. Forgive us, O God. Quiet the voices within and around us, so that we may hear you again— calling us byname, leading us beside still waters, restoring our souls. Bring us back into your fold, that we may trust your goodness and follow where you lead. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: The Shepherd knows you. The Shepherd calls you by name. The Shepherd does not abandon the flock, but leads us toward life—abundant and full. In Jesus Christ, we are not lost. We are found. We are forgiven. We are led home. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE No. 191, vs. 1 *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.**

Little ones to him belong;

they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23

ANTHEM *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
arr. John Ness Beck
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE John 10:1-10

MESSAGE *Knowing That Voice*

SHARING OUR STORIES Beth Buglio

OFFERING

You may give your offering by using the QR code on your screen, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY *He Shall Sustain Thee* Simone

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we

proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION HYMNS NOS. 473, 630, 349

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN TFWs NO. 2130

The Summons

BENEDICTION

Beloved, may God bless you with open hearts and minds so that together we may pay attention, discern, and follow your Shepherd's voice, for that is the way that leads to abundant life on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Postlude in G

Mendelssohn/Blake

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Cyndi Stouffer

Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller

Reader: Pam Kurey

Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case

Chancel Choir Director: Jeannie Nelson

Organist: Steve Campitelli

Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,

Brad Rush, Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

