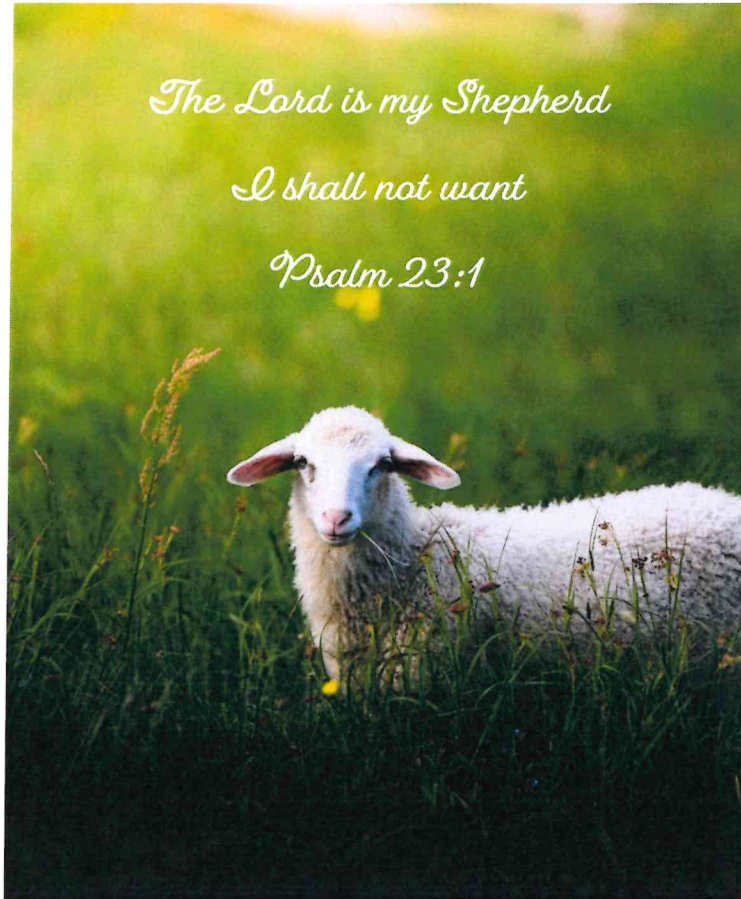


Trinity United Church of Christ

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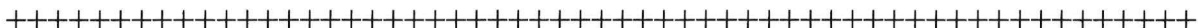
April 26, 2026 8:00AM and 10:30AM Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

*Easter Sunday begins the fifty days of the Easter season
with the story of the empty tomb and the charge by the messenger to "go and tell!"
For the next forty days – until Ascension Day –
Christians tell and retell stories of Jesus' first followers
who encountered him against all hope –*



TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

PRELUDE MUSIC "Thy Word"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Psalm 23)

Let us pray, recognizing our Risen Christ, our Good Shepherd:

Jesus, you are our shepherd. We shall never want.

You make us lie down in green pastures.

You lead us beside the still waters. You restore our souls.

You guide us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

**Even though we may walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
we fear no evil, for you, Christ, comfort us.**

Jesus has prepared a table for us in the presence of our foes.

Jesus has anointed us with the oil of salvation.

Our cup runs over!

**Surely, goodness and mercy will follow us
all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house
of our Holy Savior forever and ever. Amen.**

***HYMN #252 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Incarnate God,

you are the one who comes to us in Jesus Christ.

Holy One, you are the one who comes to us in the Holy Spirit.

Sovereign of Earth and Heaven,

**you are the one who calls us to recognize you today and every day
as splendid mystery. Gather our hearts and minds on this day.**

Kindle our God-consciousness.

Let us worship you in awe and wonder! Amen.

***RESPONSE TO PRAYER #252 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (V1)**

*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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and loving God, we ask forgiveness
because our consciousness of you is dimmed
by everyday desires and needs.

Raise our consciousness of you, O God.

We forget that we reflect your image.

We act as though you are a Sunday-only event.

Increase our mindfulness of you, O God.

**Help us to a greater common awareness
of your deep mystery and infinite presence.**

Rouse our awareness of you, God.

Open our eyes from surface focus to depth perception.

Turn our heads from shallow concerns to eternal truths.

Awaken us from faint-heartedness, O God.

Forgive us for our narrow and selfish ways.

Save us from cheap grace with your amazing grace.

Forgive us, O God. We ask in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Holy, forgiving God, we are your sheep. You keep us awake and aware.

You can increase our God-consciousness every day of our lives.

Bless you and praise you for forgiving us
when we are barely mindful enough to ask.

Help us to enter by the gate when we hear the voice of the Good Shepherd.

We hear your voice of pardon.

Through Christ's grace we are forgiven. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:00am)

“God Reigns O'er All the Earth”

Speros Marinos

ANTHEM (10:30AM)

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Senior Choir

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:1-10

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

SERMON

“A Lifetime of Following”

HYMN #479 “God Is My Shepherd”

PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

**You watch over your creation, a shepherd with whom
all living things are safe.**

You know us all and keep us wherever we move.

O God, do this, we ask you, all the days of our lives:

**May we never want and may we enter your rest and know your peace,
today and every day of our lives.**

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in an Easter God,
who transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope.
We believe God is always working for good, changing every Good Friday
nightmare into an Easter dream of new possibilities.**

**We believe in the risen Christ,
who befriends us on our roads of searching and
worry, who touches us through song and silence,
word and gesture, who calls us by name to enter the dance of life.**

**We believe in the Spirit,
the hidden presence behind every resurrection,
who beckons us to leave the tomb-like safety
and trust the gracious invitation to live joyfully.
We believe the Spirit is always renewing the church
and making us people who practice kindness,
encourage beauty and work for justice and freedom.
We believe we are an Easter people,
a sign, that with God all things are possible. Amen.**

***CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS**

God, may this time of offering serve to remind us that our gifts
are not always monetary. On this Good Shepherd Sunday,
may we also give generously the gifts of presence, care, love and hope.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #236 “Halleluja” (2X)**
Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God, accept our offerings in their many forms.
What you have so freely given to us, we now return to you.
May they provide the sustenance your children desire. Amen.**

***HYMN #81 “God Be with You”**

FINAL BLESSING

POSTLUDE MUSIC

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God-Consciousness: Service Prayers for Easter 4 was written and arranged by the
Rev. Marilyn Kennedy Levine, a United Church of Christ pastor in the Northern Plains Conference
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PRELUDE: *Thy Word*. Words by Amy Grant. Music by Michael W. Smith. Arranged by Mark Hayes. ©1984 Meadowgreen Music Company and Word Music, Inc. Published by Alfred Publishing.

ANTHEM: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*. Music from Southern Harmony. Arranged by Jay Althouse. Text based on Psalm 23 by Isaac Watts. ©2003 by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

HYMN: *God Is My Shepherd*. Text by Scottish Psalter. Adaptations by Lavon Bayler. Tune by James Leith Macbeth Bain. Arranged by Gordon Jacob. Word adaptations ©1992 The Pilgrim Press. Arrangement Copyright 1934 Oxford University Press.

RESPONSE: *Halle Halle Halle*. Text and Tune by Hal Hopson. ©1998, 2020 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI Song #2659190.

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ALTAR FLOWERS: In honor of our 62nd Wedding Anniversary on April 26th by the Hilberts.



For an updated prayer list, please check the front table of the Gathering Area. Please call the office to be removed.

NEWS Flash!

In an effort to inform congregation members and/or the wider community of what is happening in our church, the Communications Committee is seeking information to pass on. If your committee is doing something you would like to share, please let the Communications Committee know. The “info. gatherer” for the month of April is Ruth Krietz 717-337-1395 or ruthkrietz@gmail.com. Cathy Hammons is for the month of May 202-445-7535 or chammons1@gmail.com. Thanks for your input.

TRINITY IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS - Ushers, Greeters, Lay Readers, and Acolytes. Please let the office know if you would be interested in volunteering for one of these positions. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

PIZZA AND HANG TIME – April 26th -6:00pm-8:00pm – Bring at least one friend. Bring games, cards and yourself. Hang Time is unscripted and full of surprises! YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT!!!! Who doesn't love Pizza! Sign-up in the Gathering Area.

**** BLESSING ROOM: Monday, April 27th 10:00am – 11:00am.** Supplies are needed. A list of items needed is in the Gathering Area. REMEMBER, if you use it, they use it! NO oral drugs please! Volunteers arrive 9:00am to help set-up. Tearing down only takes about ½ hour - 45 minutes depending on volunteers.

TRINITY'S READING GROUP IS RE-CONVENING. We look forward to reading and discussing *Small Victories* by Anne Lamott during the month of May.

We will meet at the church on the first and third Thursdays of May from 2pm to 4pm at the church.

The book focuses on finding joy, hope and faith in the midst of both tough and easy times. One reviewer said it was both "profound and hilarious". If you wish to join us, please sign up in the Gathering Area.

If you wish to buy a book, please add that request to the sign-up sheet, and a book will be ordered for you. Readers will cover the cost of their book. If you have any questions, please see Cathy Hammons or Jane Malone. We look forward to an interesting and helpful Spring discussion.

MISSION TRIP: August 2nd – August 8th @ Appalachian South Forklife Center, Pipestem, West Virginia. Join us for Trinity's very first Mission Trip! You must be at least 13 yrs old to 99 yrs young. There is no cost to this week of mission! Financing will come from our New Ministries Initiatives Fund. We will be working with the Folklife Center's 55-year-old Workcamp Program while experiencing the cultural, historical, and recreational aspects of Appalachia!

ATTENDANCE 4/19: 8:00am 17; 10:30am 39; On-line 77; Total 137

FINANCE REPORT 4/19:

Envelope Offering Need: \$59,392.00 Envelope Offering Rec'd: \$49,344.14
Property Fund Need: \$6,160.00 Property Offering Rec'd: \$2,662.50

THIS WEEK

Today, 4/26: 6:00pm – 8:00pm Youth Hang Time – *Fellowship Hall*

Monday, 4/27: 10:00am – 11:00am Blessing Room – *Fellowship Hall*

Tuesday, 4/28: 1:00pm Senior Social Fun and Fellowship – *Fellowship Hall*

Wednesday, 4/29: 7:00pm Choir - *Sanctuary*

Friday, 5/1: 9:30am Flutes – *Fellowship Hall*

Next Sunday, 5/3: Communion

Confirmation Class – *Sanctuary*

12:30pm – 4:30pm MDANA – *Fellowship Hall*

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Jen Mickelson 8:00am

Sara Shank

Mark Luckenbaugh

Janet & Steve Sheely

Joe Lysitt 8:00am

Janet Sheely

Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Russell Bailey,

Suhua Dong, Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Ruth Krietz, Terry Krietz, Garrison Redding,

Nina Redding, Cindy Kidd, Bette Bunce, Chris Swinn.

Suhua Dong 10:30am

Terry Krietz 10:30am

Pastor

Liturgists

Organist/Choir Director

Percussionist

Greeters

Usher

Acolyte

Tech Team

Attrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779–1847)

From *Hymns for the Young*, 1836; alt.

St. 1 transl. to Hawaiian by Laiana (1807–1886)

1. Ie-su no ke Ka-hu-hi-pa, Ka-hu-hi-pa ma'i-ka'i e,
Ei-a ma-kou ka 'o-ha-na ke ho'o-lo-he a ha-hai:
E a-lo-ha, e a-lo-ha, a-la-ka'i a ha-nai mai,
E a-lo-ha, e a-lo-ha, a-la-ka'i a ha-nai mai.

1. Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need your ten-der care;
in your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your folds pre-pare.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us, yours we are;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us, yours we are.

2. We are yours, in love be-friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin de-fend us, seek us when we go a-stray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear your chil-dren when we pray;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear your chil-dren when we pray.

3. Let us al-ways seek your fa-vor; let us al-ways do your will;
Je-sus Christ our on-ly Sav-ior, with your love our spir-its fill.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.

John 10:1–29

God Is My Shepherd

479

Scottish Psalter, 1650
Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

1. God is my shep-herd, I'll not want, I feed in pas-tures green.
God grants me rest and bids me drink from wa-ters calm and clean.
Through dai-ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by One I have not seen.
2. Re-stored to life each morn-ing new, I rise up from the dust
to fol-low God whose pres-ence gives me con-fi-dence and trust.
I praise the name of God to-day; in God I put my trust.
3. When I must pass through shad-owed vale, where loss and death
a-wait,
I will not fear for God is there, my shep-herd strong and great,
Whose rod and staff will com-fort me and all my fears a-bate.
4. No en-e-my can o-ver-come, no power on earth de-feat
the ones a-noint-ed by God's grace and fed with man-na sweet.
My cup is filled and o-ver-flows as I my Sav-ior greet.
5. Good-ness and mer-cy all my days will sure-ly fol-low me;
and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwell-ing place
will be.
My shep-herd bless-es, cares, and leads through all e-ter-ni-ty.

Ps. 23

God Be with You

81

Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880; alt.

1. God be with you till we meet a-gain;
By good coun-sel guide, up-hold you,
With a shep-herd's care en-fold you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Je-sus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

2. God be with you till we meet a-gain;
Wings of shel-ter safe-ly hide you,
Dai-ly man-na still pro-vide you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

Refrain:

3. God be with you till we meet a-gain;
When life's per-ils thick con-found you,
Put un-fail-ing arms a-round you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

Refrain:

4. God be with you till we meet a-gain;
Keep love's ban-ner float-ing o'er you,
Smite death's threat-ening wave be-fore you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

Refrain: