

*Order of Worship*  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE EASTER SEASON**  
9:30 am – May 8, 2022

***Participating Live?***

*Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.*

**PRELUDE**

*Improvisation on Regina Caeli Chant*  
Lance Crane, organ

**GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Karen Flock, liturgist

The Shepherd calls to us. **We hear and will follow the Shepherd.**  
The Shepherd brings us to springs of eternal life. **We are here to taste its sweet waters.**  
Come to be fed and raised to new life. **Resurrection is all around us.**  
(Rev. Mary Scifres, ©2022)

**HYMN**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

UMH 140

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, Public Domain. Music: William H. Runyan, Public Domain

**1** Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

**Refrain:** Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

**2** Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

**3** Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

**MOTHER'S DAY LITANY** (responsive)

We thank you, God, for our mothers, and for those who were like mothers to us.

**For those who nurtured, supported, and enabled us to grow and mature in faith.**

We thank you for those who have been like mothers to children not their own, offering unconditional love and  
guidance to the children in their midst.

**We thank you for the gift of creativity that you planted within us, men and women alike, that enable us  
by your spirit to give birth to a new creation.**

We pray for those who parent children, for the joy and challenge of their vocation;

**Grant them the courage and grace to parent to the best of their ability, knowing that when their best  
efforts fall short, you offer your grace and forgiveness.**

We also join our hearts with those for whom today is a day of grief and mourning:

**Those who have lost their mothers, or are estranged from their mothers; for those who grieve the loss of  
a child, or for whom motherhood is a hope denied.**

O God of compassion, who took on our earthly frame and shared our sufferings in Jesus, send your healing  
spirit upon us, and empower us to deal tenderly with one another.

**Thank you for being our Heavenly Parent, and for teaching us how to love and care for one another.**

**Amen.**

(adapted, Rev. Jeff Krehbiel)

**HYMN***God of the Women*

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Tune: Be Thou My Vision (UMH 451)  
 CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 3063376  
 Words: Carolyn Gillette Winfrey, © 1998. All rights reserved.

God of the women who answered your call, trusting your promises, giving their all,  
 Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth — give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, giving their resources, learning to pray,  
 Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more — May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test, left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,  
 Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" — In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb, prayed with the others in that upper room,  
 Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day — May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Dorcas and ministers all, may we be joyful in answering your call.  
 Give us the strength of your Spirit so near. That we may share in your ministry here.

**PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC***The New 23rd Psalm*

by Ralph Carmichael

VFUMC Chancel Choir; Bob Riggs, interim director; Lance Crane, accompanist  
 CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 11225

**SCRIPTURE***Psalm 23; John 10: 22-30 (NRSV)*

Karen Flock, liturgist

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Matt

**MUSICAL RESPONSE***Shepherd Me, O God (2x)*

TFWS 2058

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Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)**

**Holy God, you work wonders beyond our imagination. Thank you for all the faithful people you have inspired in the history of the church. You have sent into our lives kind Christians who have encouraged us in beautiful ways. Help us to keep growing as disciples led by your Spirit. May we become more devoted to good works and acts of charity, so that others will be blessed in turn. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

(umcdiscipleship.org, ©2022)

**HYMN***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

UMH 381

Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp, Public Domain. Music: William B. Bradbury, Public Domain

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;  
 in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.  
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;  
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.
4. Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Celtic Alleluia*  
Lance Crane, organ

***Prayer Request***

**Pacific Korean Mission**—Pastor Do Won Lee

**Ridgecrest UMC**—Pastor Wesley Elmore

**Henning & Linda Ottsen**—on the sudden loss of their son

**Kate Stradling and family**

**Ukraine**



*Hans Ottsen*  
*Sunday May 15*  
*3:00 in person*  
*in the*  
*sanctuary.*  
*Service will*  
*also be*  
*livestreamed.*