NEWTOWN United Methodist Church

April 21, 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship is a time to move close to God and receive spiritual energy for living courageously and serving others faithfully.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Isaac Watts

*Call to Worship

Leader: We welcome you into this sacred place. Come, walk with the Lord this day.

People: We are grateful to be here. We come to seek a place of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.

Leader: Christ, the Good Shepherd, will lead you to places where your soul may be restored; he invites you to walk with him.

People: We accept that invitation, confident in Christ's guidance.

Leader: Be ready to serve the Lord in all you do, for his love has been poured upon you.

People: We open our hearts and spirits this day, Lord, to receive your holy words and to be challenged in our service to you. Amen.

*Hymn "His Name Is Wonderful" UMH # 174

*Opening Prayer

Loving God, we know that Your promise of resurrection is always around us, in the leaves and seeds falling to death, and bulbs and shoots sprouting into life. You gave us this awe-inspiring earth and entrusted it to our care. Remind us to put Your love first and foremost, a love that seeks to bless, build, and create rather than break down and destroy. Call us into accountability for the care of Your beautiful earth and all our neighbors, including all the creatures and plants of the wondrous world. Help us pause now and then in amazement of all You have made and continue to do, and lead us in ways to participate in the care of Your creation. For You are our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer for the Pastor

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Old Testament Reading Psalm 23 Pew Bible pg. 501

Choral Anthem "The Lord Is My Shepherd" John Rutter

Gospel Reading John 10:11-18 Pew Bible pg. 103

Message Pastor Rodney Brailsford

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

*Hymn "I Am Thine, O Lord" UMH # 419

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*Response Doxology, UMH #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" UMH # 381

*Dismissal and Blessing

Postlude

*Please Stand if able

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