Church of the Good Shepherd

United Methodist

400 West Duarte Road, Arcadia, California 91007 - (626) 447-2181

www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Easter and God's Creation Sunday

Sunday, April 23, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Broadcast Live to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

As we prepare for worship, let us be in prayer and meditation.
Please "Check In" on social media, then set all electronic devices to silent mode.
Remember to sign the attendance pad.

Prelude "Gather Us In" arr. Cotter
Stephen Cook, Music Director

The Chimes

Introit "Easter Anthem" William Billings

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 24:1-2 & Psalm 62:11)
Virginia Crosby, Lay Reader

One: The psalmist calls us to worship saying:
Many: "The earth is the LORD's and everything in it."

One: For He founded it upon the seas
Many: and established it upon the waters.

One: One thing you have spoken O Lord,
Many: that You, O God, are strong, and are loving.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord, our God!

***Opening Hymn** "For the Beauty of the Earth" Red UM Hymnal **#92**

Anthem "I Can Do All Things" (based on Philippians 4:13)
Children's Choir: Diane Lucas, Director; Janice Clark, Accompanist

The Word for Children **Children are invited to come sit in the front.*

Prayer of Confession ***Unison***

Gracious God, in this journey that we live with you and one another, we recall the ways that we have missed the mark. We have failed to live our Christian story well. We have neglected to listen to and believe the stories of our neighbors. We have ignored how we contribute to the hardships that exist in our community. We have turned away from the needs of the poor. We have shied away from the suffering of our neighbors. We have valued independence over interdependence and connection. In so many ways, big and small, our lives have not demonstrated our testimony of new life in Christ. *(Time for silent confession.)* Forgive us, we pray, that we, your Easter people, may testify the Good News with our voices and our lives.

The 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.

Anthem "Now Glad of Heart Be Everyone" Richard Peek
Chancel Choir, Kirk Averitt, Director

Scripture Lesson *Virginia Crosby, Lay Reader*

*Luke 24:13-35

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

***Hymn of Preparation** "Take Time to Be Holy" Red UM Hymnal **#395**

Sermon Message "The Power of Possibilities is to Be Shared With Others"
Rev. Thai-Erwin

Response "Only Hope" Johnathan Foreman
Kenneth Landaverde, Soloist

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Open My Eyes, That I May See" Red UM Hymnal **#454**

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" Red UM Hymnal #**431**

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our Creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow; to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude "Thou, O Lord, Shall Endure" by Raymond Herbek

Stephen Cook, Music Director

**The congregation standing, if able.*

The Altar Flowers today are given in celebration of Hannah Ng's birthday by her family.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Alive!

Masks are not required, but are recommended.

NOTE **-** the **UMC 101** presentation on the United Methodist Church previously scheduled for today is postponed until **Sunday, May 28th.** We, the UMC, are a connectional system. Come and find out what's happening now in our own church, District, Conference, Nation, and even at the International level.

Church Council will hold its meeting on Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 am to noon. Committee and Ministry Chairs are reminded to submit their written reports ahead of time to Joe or Marcia D'Amore.

May 7th (after worship – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm) is the **New Members Class** for those interested in joining or transferring to Church of the Good Shepherd. Pastor Eva will review Methodist History, Membership Vows, Church Structure, and CGS ministries. Please RSVP to Pastor Eva if you would like to attend (pastoreva@cgsum.org).

2023 Altar Flowers – To sign up for altar flowers, just enter your information in the Flower Chart in the narthex or call the church office (626-447-2181). Cost is **$60**. Make your check payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd," with *Altar Flowers* in the memo line. Or you may pay online through the church website.

Year-Round Grant Applications for 2023 are Being Accepted by the CGS Foundation. The purpose of grants must be *"aid, promotion, and development of the religious, charitable, and educational activities, purposes, functions and progress to the Church of the Good Shepherd UMC, Arcadia"* It's a quick and simple process. Submit your application online using the **Foundation Online Grant Form.**

Reminder that checks to the church should be made out to ***Church of the Good Shepherd.*** Our bank will not accept "CGS" as the payee. Please also indicate the purpose of the check in your memo line.

Remember to send your articles, announcements, etc. to **The Word** editor, Stephanie Shen at cgsarcadianewsletter@gmail.com by 3:00 pm Fridays. And for **Master Calendar** requests or changes, please contact Carolyn Noonchester at **cgsmastercalendar@gmail.com** and please allow time for response as we are working on improving the church calendar system.

Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Bishop Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Siosaia Tuitahi
Pastor: Eva Thai-Erwin
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen
Director of Music Ministries: Stephen Cook
Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Brown

Church of the Good Shepherd Mission:
At Church of the Good Shepherd, God calls us to welcome all to a vibrant community on a continuing journey of Faith, Growth, Justice, and Service in the image of Christ.