Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist

400 West Duarte Road, Arcadia, California 91007 - (626) 447-2181
www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday in Lent and Heritage Communion Sunday

Sunday, April 6, 2025 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.
The Offering Box is located in the Sanctuary entryway.

Prelude "What Wondrous Love is This" arr. Shakley
Stephen Cook

The Chimes

Introit "Christ We Do All Adore Thee" by Theodore Dubois
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** *(adapted fr. UCC Worship Ways Archive: Psalm 126)*
Catherine Doster, Lay Reader

Leader: Lord, come to this sanctuary, this house, this home.
People: Lord, let us receive you with a lavish welcome.

Leader: You are the Restorer of our fortunes, and the Promise of new life.
People: We pour out our unending praise to you.

Leader: Lord, fill this room with your Spirit: sound of wind, warmth of flame, and scent of perfume.
People: And fill our hearts with your compassion, in all times and in all places, so that we may embody the love you give to all. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" Red UM Hymnal #**126**

**The congregation standing, if able.*

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

Prayer of Confession

Like Judas, God of new things, we like to complain about your generous ways, rather than living in your grace. The poor are always with us, we believe, which justifies our ignoring them. In our memories, we focus on a perceived golden past, and so we ignore the new things you do in our midst. We are so enamored with our achievements that we are not willing to throw them away in order to follow Jesus. Forgive us, Restoring God, and help us to notice the kingdom springing forth in our midst. By your grace, may our fears turn to faith, our seeds of grief produce a bumper crop of joy, and our tears turn into torrents of tenderness as we journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Jerusalem. Amen.

Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" by Gilber M.t Martin
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Scripture Lessons *Catherine Doster, Lay Reader*

Psalm 126
*John 12:1-8

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God

***Hymn of Preparation** "O Spirit of the Living God Red UM Hymnal #**539**

Sermon "Symbols of Lent: Laughter and Perfume" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Anthem Response "Do Not Stand At My Grave And Weep" M.E. Frye, Howard Goodall
Stephenson Holder, Soloist

***Offertory Prayer & Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Red UM Hymnal #**94**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion "Communion Setting" TFWS #**2257 – a thru d**

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.

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Something Beautiful" Red UM Hymnal #**394**

***Benediction** *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***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** "Prelude in F Major" by J.S. Bach
Stephen Cook

**The congregation standing, if able.*

The altar flowers today are given in loving memory of Joyce Brownfield and 53 years of friendship, by Suzanne Wright.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Alive!

We are taking orders for **Easter Flowers** today**.** They may be ordered through the Church Office by Monday, April 7th. Make your checks payable to Church of the Good Shepherd and write "Easter Flowers" in the memo line. This is a beautiful way to honor or remember someone special.

The Youth will be selling **SSP Stock today** after worship to support their summer 2025 mission trip.

Submit your pictures for the Church's 80th Anniversary Slideshow! Do you have photos from the past 80 years? We're creating a special slideshow to showcase the rich history of our church, and we need your help. No photo is too old or too recent -- every memory has a place in our celebration! Email your photos to cgsarcadianewsletter@gmail.com with the Subject Line: "Slideshow Photos." Physical photos can be brought to the Church Office to be scanned. Thank you so much for your help creating this walk down memory lane!

Shepherds Fellowship will have their monthly dinner and meeting **Tuesday, April 8th.** Their speaker will be **Pastor Eva Thai-Erwin** and she will present a talk entitled **The 3 Crosses of Calvary: Sinner, Saint, Savior!**

The **Book Club** will be reading its new selection, **The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post,** beginning **April 9th at 11:30 am in the Lounge.**

May 3rd is the date for the **Walk for Sierra Service Project.** The Youth and Catherine Doster are signing up donors and walkers after worship on April 13th, 20th, and 27th. Entry is $30 per individual. Donations from non-walkers are gratefully accepted. Thank you for your support that gives our your this important mission experience

Adult Sunday School Class: Don Thorsen has begun leading a **new series** entitled **"Everything You Wanted to Know about Jesus (But Were Afraid to Ask)".** It is a study what Scripture has to say about Jesus, and why Christians sometimes prefer to think of Jesus differently than what is said in Scripture. Join us from **9:00 to 9:45 am in the Library.**

2025 Pledge Cards are available in the narthex before worship and in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Cards may be placed in the offering box in the Sanctuary entryway or dropped off to the church mailbox anytime.

SCAM Alert! Be cautious! Delete any s**pam** or **fake emails and texts** from hackers impersonating Pastor Eva or any church staff. Pay attention to the sender's email address, which will not match the real one. If you are unsure about an email you have received, please contact the church office.

Remember to send your articles, announcements, etc. t:o **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.

Upcoming Events!

April 18th - Good Friday Chapel Service (7:00 pm)
April 20th - Easter Sunday Service and Children's Easter Egg Hunt
May 3rd - Annual Walk-a-thon
June 1st - 80th Anniversary Event with 10:00 am Worship, 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship, and 12:30 pm Luncheon

Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Bishop Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Pastor: Rev. 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.