Church of the Good Shepherd

United Methodist

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

www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Easter and Communion Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 2024 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 "Were You There?" by J.S. Bach
Stephen Cook, Director of Music

The Chimes

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** *Joann Steinmeier, Lay Reader*

One: Holy God, we gather together in this sacred space.
Many: May our praises and prayers be lifted up to you.

One: Holy God, we gather together to be refreshed and renewed.
Many: May we grow in unity from the witness and relationships that flow from this time.

One: Holy God, we gather together to celebrate your Son, the Risen Christ.
Many: May we always remember this gift to the world and be reaffirmed in our faith.

***Opening Hymn** "In Christ There Is No East or West" Red UM Hymnal #**548**

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

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that many a time, we are more doubters than believers. We doubt your love for us when we see oppression, sickness, death, violence against nature, wars, and hatred in humanity. Help us to recognize these outcomes of our selfishness and greed. Through the death and resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, help us to understand your sacrificial love for us so that we will love one another. Help us to learn from the courage of Jesus to take up the cross to stand against evil in this world. Enlighten us as we celebrate resurrection and be with us as we strive to bring peace, justice, and hope to your kingdom. Amen.

Scripture Lessons *Joann Steinmeier, Lay Reader*

Psalm 133
*John 20:19-31
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God

***Hymn of Preparation** "Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word" Red UM Hymnal #**596**

Sermon Message "Do Not Doubt, But Believe in Jesus!" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Special Music *Pedro Galindo, Guitar*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Thanksgiving and Communion See Insert for Text

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Christ's table is open to all. All persons who wish to walk in new life with Christ are invited are invited to receive the bread and juice, without regard to past history, denominational affiliation, or any of the wonderful ways that God has made each of us unique beings. Please come forward at the ushers' direction. You may go to the altar rail, kneel in prayer, and there receive the elements.

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.

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Christ Is Alive!" Red UM Hymnal #**318**

***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 Church of the Good Shepherd, Alive!

Today is the Special Charge Conference & Church Council at 11:30 am – There is one item on the agenda to be voted on: church approval of the sale of our share of the Long Beach 9th Street Property. Following the Charge Conference meeting, Church Council will meet from 11:45-12:15 to approve the Budget and discuss any other action items needed.

Shepherds Potluck April 9th at 5:30 pm – Guest speaker is Ikenna "Ike" Mmeje, USC Arcadia Hospital President and CEO.

Women's Book Club is beginning a new study of **The River We Remember** on **April 10th**. The group meets at **11:30 am** on Wednesdays. All are welcome.

Spring Family Game Day and BBQ - Sunday, April 21st - It will be fun for all ages! A BBQ with all the fixings! Games for everybody. Fellowship! FREE! Thanks to a grant from the Good Shepherd Foundation. RSVP to the church office, 626-447-2181, or to Cindy Ostry.

CGS Job Opening for Part Time Custodian - Do you know of someone looking for part time work? We have a position open. It is for 20 hours per week (5 hours on Sundays, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm) and the balance during the week. Duties include cleaning, event set up, and light maintenance. Pay is $20 per hour (possibly more, based on experience). Contact Pastor Eva for more details.

Have you attended **Adult Sunday School** yet? It's **Sundays from 9:00-9:45 am in the library.** Co-teachers are Carolyn Iga and Don Thorsen. All are welcome to join in fellowship and prayer as well as studying Scripture. For more information, contact Carolyn (carolyniga@gmail.com) or Don (donthorsen@alumni.stanford.edu).

Grief Support Group - Our grief support group series is meeting on Mondays in the **AEC from 7-8:00 pm** and will run through May 13th. Linda Brown, our Children's Center Director and trained Stephen Minister is leading this support group. The group will gather in person and engage in deep listening and sharing to give uplifting support. People at all stages of grief are welcome to join. Please email Linda Brown at childcenter@cgsum.org if you are interested.

LOOKING AHEAD!
April 21st - Spring Family Game Day and BBQ
May 2nd - Arcadia Interfaith National Day of Prayer 7:00pm at The Santa Anita Church
May 12th - Mother's Day Worship Service – including Infant and Children Baptisms
May 19th - Pentecost – Music Ministry Sunday, Youth Confirmation and Celebration of CGS members who are 90 and above!

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.

Thanksgiving and Communion Liturgy for the Season of Easter and In Celebration of God's Creation

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator God, you revealed to us your Creation on earth. The waters flowed, and the winds blew. You set the cosmos into motion and created living beings. You gave life to the plants and the sea creatures and the land animals. You put into flight the birds and insects, and you made people to walk on the ground. You blessed us all and called us good. But when our love failed and we turned away, You revealed a love for your people and all of Creation that never ends. And so we praise you, with all the company of saints and sinners, singing your unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosannah in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosannah in the highest.

You continued to reveal your love for us in your son, Jesus, who came to live among us and move as a human on this Earth. When he dined with his friends, just before he was to be executed, he reminded them of your love revealed in the gifts of bread and juice before them on the table. He took the bread in his hands, gave thanks to you, broke it, and shared it with his friends, saying the familiar words, "Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." And when the supper was over, he took the cup, again gave thanks for it, and shared it with all who gathered, reminding them, "Drink this all of you. This is the cup of my covenant with you, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Still-creating Spirit, Be poured out on those gathered here and on these gifts from the field in bread and juice. As we receive them into our bodies, make us your body. Unite us with those who have come before us in your kin-dom and with those who will come after us, now and always.

Amen.

Written by Rev. Laura Baumgartner, Seattle, WA (ancestral homelands of the Duwamish and Coast Salish peoples), an elder in the Pacific Northwest Conference and involved in the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.



Spring Family Game Day & BBQ - Sunday, April 21st

Please join us for some fun family games, fun for all ages!

We will also have a barbecue with all the fixings!

And, most importantly, fellowship with other families.

RSVP to the Church Office, 626-447- 2181, or to Cindy Ostry.

This is a free family event thanks to a grant from the Good Shepherd Foundation.

Mother's Day Worship Service- May 12th

Please join us for this special service honoring mothers and the women who helped raised us. We will also baptize infants, children, and youth during this worship service. Parents must attend the Baptism Orientation on April 21st at 12noon in the Lounge (or at another date/time arranged with Pastor Eva).

Please RSVP to the Church Office, 626-447- 2181, or Pastor Eva.