Church of the Good Shepherd

United Methodist

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

www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday in Lent & United Women in Faith Sunday

Sunday, March 9, 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 "Sonata in F major, K 332 (2nd Mvmt.)" by W.A. Mozart
Stephen Cook

The Chimes

Introit "Woman in the Night" by Charles H. Webb
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** *Andrea Thorsen, Lay Reader*

One: God of mission, you remind us this morning once again to seek your kingdom first.

All: God of abundant living, you call us to steep our lives in your initiatives.

One: God of grace, you summon us back to your kingdom, as the goal and purpose of our lives.

All: God of faith, hope, and love, you fit your daughters and sons for various activities for the sake of your mission.

One: God of mystery, we are constantly surprised by the working of your Spirit in our midst.

All: Holy Spirit, continue to guide us, as we offer ourselves to your bidding, and commit ourselves to work for the reign of God here and afar.

***Opening Hymn** "Many Gifts, One Spirit" Red UM Hymnal #**114**

**The congregation standing, if able.*

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

Reading of UWIF Mission Statement *(See Insert)*
Presidents Sandy Jelinek and Andrea Thorsen and All Women

Retirement Recognition of Reverend Brenda Simonds, USC Arcadia Hospital

Prayer of Affirmation and Lord's Prayer *Suzanne Wright*

Eternal God, thank you for calling and affirming us to be in community with each other. Enable us to center ourselves for renewal in your presence, commitment to your mission, and ministry with the least of these, here and around the world. Equip us with your Holy Spirit to witness to your love and power, healing and reconciliation. Inspire us once again to be the tellers of the old, old story in ever new contexts, that Jesus has come so that all may have life. And together we are lifted up in the fullness of life, through Christ Jesus.

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 "The 23rd Psalm" by Bobby McFerrin
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Scripture Lessons *Andrea Thorsen, Lay Reader*

Psalm 46:4-6
*Luke 14:1, 7-11

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

***Hymn of Preparation** "Hymn of Promise" Red UM Hymnal #**707**

Sermon "Symbols of Lent: A Seat at the Table" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Special Music "God is Love" by Mindy Jostyn
Carolyn Noonchester, Alto; Susan Holder, Soprano

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "We Are the Church" Red UM Hymnal #**558**

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

***Benediction Response** "Song of Hope" TFWS Songbook #**2186**

***Postlude** "Improvisation on 'Come, Ye Faithful Raise the Strain'" arr. Fedak
Stephen Cook

**The congregation standing, if able.*

Flowers this morning are to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Edie Slemmons and are given by Maria, Ruemruk and Dylan! And we have special flowers in celebration of United Women of Faith and all the women of the church.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Alive!

It's Time Change Sunday! Ladies will be collecting change in the yellow buckets today after worship. Proceeds will be donated to support local fire relief.

Sierra Service Project Stock Sale begins today. Donate to support their summer mission trip to San Diego, CA.

All are invited to Spring Ahead today with Edie Slemmon for her Fundredth Birthday Celebration in Jordan Hall, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. No gifts, just your smiles, hugs, and memories. There will be light refreshments, board games, and Joker, or bring your favorite game to share.

Shepherds will meet **Tuesday, March 11th at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall** for a **Baked Potato Feast**. The program will be **"Two Truths and a Lie."**

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.

Adult Sunday School Series: The Bible Through a Historical and Faith Lens continues. Join us from **9:00 to 9:45 am in the Library.** This overview of the Bible uses Hebrews 11 as our table of contents. Discover how history and faith are intertwined.

During the Lenten season the **Book Club** is reading and discussing Spiritual Practices for Soul Care. Join them on **Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. in the Lounge**.

United Women in Faith is hosting a Fundraiser at **BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse** on **Thursday, Marh 20th from 4-9:00 pm.** See the enclosed flyer. Thank you.

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!

March 20th - UWIF Fundraiser at BJ's Restaurant
March 23rd - Scouting Ministry Sunday
March 30th - Combined Choir Concert "Fauré Requiem"
May 3rd - Annual Walk-athon
June 1st - 80th Anniversary Event!

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.