



**Trinitarian Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ
 Concord, Massachusetts
 April 22, 2018**

Celebrating Community

“We don’t lack lots of things in our society; we lack just one.
 The one and only thing that can cause us to say,
 “I shall not want,” or “I lack no good thing,” is God. Nothing else.
 The one thing we lack is intimacy with God.”

- James Limburg

SILENT PRAYER

O God, who broughtst me from the rest of last night unto the joyous light of this day,
 Be Thou bringing me from the new light of this day unto the guiding light of eternity.
 Amen. from *Celtic Invocations*, Alexander Carmichael

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury, arr. Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,
Many: so God seeks and saves the lost.

One: Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,
Many: so God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.

One: As a father receives a returning wayward son,
Many: so God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.

One: Therefore, let us praise God in full thanksgiving!
**Many: Let us receive and welcome and rejoice over one another
 in the name of Jesus Christ.**

***HYMN #210**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs

St. Anne

***INVOCATION**

WORDS OF WELCOME

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

ANTHEM

Psalm 23

Bobby McFerrin

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need. She makes me lie down
 in green meadows, beside the still waters She will lead. She restores
 my soul, She rights my wrongs, She leads me in a path of good things,
 and fills my heart with songs. Even tho' I walk through a dark and
 dreary land, there is nothing that can shake me, She has said She won't
 forsake me, I'm in her hand. She sets a table before me, in the presence
 of my foes; She anoints my head with oil, and my cup overflows. Surely
 goodness and kindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will live
 in her house forever and ever. Glory be to our Mother and Daughter, and
 to the Holy of Holies. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen.

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES John 10:9-11 (p. 103 in the pew Bible)
 Psalm 23 (in unison)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.
 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art
 with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my
 head with oil; my cup runneth over.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the
 house of the Lord forever.

SERMON

Surely the Good Shepherd is Here!

Jean Vandergrift

*HYMN

Borning Cry

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

When the pastor prays the words, "God of all mercy," please respond together as a congregation by praying, "Hear our prayer."

The Prayer of Our Savior

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.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Call to Stewardship

Offertory

Brother James' Air

Gordon Jacob

***Hymn of Praise**

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

You shower us with your goodness every day, O God, and our cups runneth over with blessings! With grateful hearts, then, we bring you these tithes and offerings. Transform them into outpourings of peace and justice, reconciling all peoples to one another and to you, in the Spirit of the Resurrected One, Amen.

***HYMN #281**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

Cwm Rhondda

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Heinrich Fleischer
(1912-2006)

*The congregation is invited to stand.

† **Go Forth and Serve** †

Leading Worship: Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Victoria Wagner, Music Director; Bob Lawson, Liturgist.

The flowers are given by Marty Oberrender and Nick and Ann (Oberrender) Noyes in celebration of anniversaries and birthdays in all of our families.