

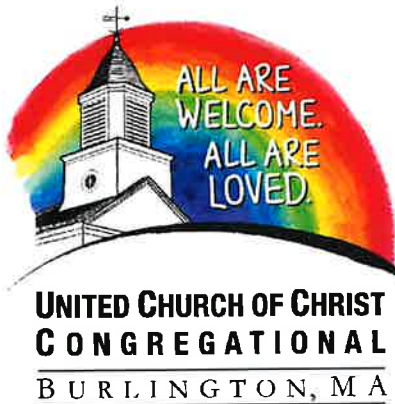
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"We gather for worship, study, planning and mission to celebrate the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ which frees us to love boldly and to serve gladly as God would want us to do."

April 26, 2026

10:30am

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We believe God calls us to love unconditionally, following the example of Jesus Christ.

Recognizing that all people are equal in the sight of God, we seek to be an inclusive and respectful community for persons of every color, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability and economic means.

In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person, and declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation.

We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love.

We welcome individuals and families of every configuration into the full life and ministry of this church, and invite you to join us on our faith journey!

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

Gathering....

Musical Prelude

Voluntary IV – Peek

Aline Beck

Welcome & Announcements

***Morning Psalm - Based on Psalm 23**

One: The Lord is my Shepherd

All: I shall not want.

One: I seek the grace of God

All: and my cup runneth over.

One: How generous is God's love?

All: The world cannot contain it.

One: The Lord is my Shepherd

All: And I lack nothing.

***Opening Hymn**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

NCH #252

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Passing the Peace

Red Wagon

***Devotional Hymn**

My Shepherd Is the Living God

NCH #247

Reflecting...

Scripture Readings

John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Our Sermon Thief in the Sheepfold Rev. Andrew Harris

Anthem I Will Live My Thanks Choir
Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin and Ruth Elaine Schram

Praying...

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Offering...

Invitation of Offering

Offertory Andante Religioso – Mendelssohn Aline Beck

***Doxology** Lyrics adapted by William Abernethy; tune *NCH #780*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator,
Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sending...

***Closing Hymn** God Is Here! As We Your People Meet NCH #70

***Benediction**

Postlude The Glory of God in Nature – Beethoven Aline Beck

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CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Adopted February 2017:

At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that ***all are welcome, all are loved.*** We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person's spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE DURING WORSHIP ON MOTHER'S DAY?



For Mother's Day this year, we are recruiting members of our church to share a short story about moms and faith. Do you have a story about your mother to share? Do you have a story about being a mother? Do you have a story about being a mother figure? Or perhaps about someone who showed you a mother's love, whether they were your biological mother or not?

If you think you might have a brief story to share about the way God's love is revealed to us through motherhood, please let Andrew know! We'd love for you to share your story during worship. Call the church or email andrew@uccburlington.org

Rev. Andrew Harris, Pastor
Aline Beck, Organist
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant
Uccburlington.org / 781-272-4547

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Passing of Bill Beyer's Sister
Passing of Ally Mazzarella's grandmother
Skip Glancy
Conrad Fong
Tom Killilea
Tonia Egan, her mom and dad
Joe Stoddard's family member Jada
Cindy Phillip's friend's husband
pancreatic cancer
Prayers Laura Nowell's friend Mary
Barbara Naddaff's grandson, friend Mary
Sally Willard's sister Vicky
Anna Karwan's sister-in-law for being a
wonderful caregiver for mom
Rev. Cheryl Kerr's son Gabe
Joyce Carpenter, nieces Breanna,
MaryJane and brother-in-law Ken
Auri Musselman's sister-in-law's family
Woody Knowles
Donna DeSiome's sister Brenda and
brother-in-law Rick
Deana Tredeau's great niece Katie Wise
Bill Livezey
Kay Shute
Roberta Low
Debbie Claar's dear friends Victor, Bob
Jan Blandino, her grandson Toby
David Knowles
Ted Brierley
Andrew's friend Lorenzo
Bill Hitchcock
Karen Butler's brother-in-law Lenny
Shirley Fong's Mom Mary
Julie Lewis' cousin Alicia
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn
Jessy McNeil's sisters Grace and Joyce
Kelly Sievert
Ginger Mungillo, daughter Cindy,
son Jim
Barbara Garland

*Dick and Karen Butler donated today's
altar flowers in memory of Karen's
parents John and Veronica Matson and
brother, John Matson, Jr.*

Worship Participation

April 26 Red Wagon

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Aline Beck
Lay Leader: Debbie Claar
Head Usher: Chris Stahlinski
Usher: Carol Downing
Greeter:
Collector: Dick Butler
Flowers: Karen and Dick Butler
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Cindy Phillips
Bakers: Cindy Phillips

Worship Participation

May 2 Communion Service

Communion: Marge Zamanian
Guest Pastor: Rev. Renee Manning
Organist: Aline Beck
Lay Leader: Sarah Clark
Head Usher: Deb Glancy
Usher:
Greeter:
Flowers: Karen and Dick Butler
Collector: Deb Raymond
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host:
Bakers: Donna Flecchia

YOUTH GROUP TODAY

CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

We are busy making prayer shawls and prayers squares. Weather permitting, we will meet every Thursday at 1PM in the conference room. All are welcome!

WISH PROJECT-CHELMSFORD

The Wish Project is looking ahead and wants only spring and summer clothing now. The bin will be back under the hall coat rack this week.

Travel to the Harvard Epworth Church in Cambridge with Rev. Steven Bingham from 4- 5:30p.

The youth will meet at UCC Burlington at 12:45 and will be driven to Epworth Church by Deb.

Along with Hancock Church Youth, we will deliver prepared meals to people in Cambridge.

This will be a walking event to people's homes. The event is 1:30 – potentially 4:30 and return to church by 5.

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

252

Attrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779–1847)

John 10:1–29

From Hymns for the Young, 1836; alt.

St. 1 transl. to Hawaiian by Laiana (1807–1886)

1 Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need your ten - der care;
 1 Ie - su no ke Ka - hu - hi - pa, Ka - hu - hi - pa ma'i-ka'i e,
 2 We are yours, in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 Let us al - ways seek your fa - vor; let us al - ways do your will;

in your pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your folds pre- pare.
 Ei - a ma - kou ka 'o - ha - na ke ho'o-lo - he a ha - hai:
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 Je - sus Christ our on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are;
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai,
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray;
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still;

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

The theme of Christ as shepherd is familiar and beloved to Christians. Emma Lyons Doyle, granddaughter of Laiana (translator Lorenzo Lyons), once said, "If you want to know the full beauty of this hymn, hear it sung in Hawaiian."

Tune: BRADBURY 8.7.8.7.D.
 William B. Bradbury, 1859

My Shepherd Is the Living God

Ps. 23; John 10:11, 27-30

Composite from Thomas Sternhold, 1549, and Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

C G C G7 C F G F C

1 My shep-herd is the liv - ing God, I there-fore noth-ing need;
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

Am G C F G Am G7 C G C

In pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams you set - tle me to feed.
 A word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

C F C Dm G C Am Dm Am FM7

You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for-sake your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers come and go—

Em C Am Dm Am Em C G7 C

And lead me for your mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
 My cup with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 No more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Isaac Watts, London's leading Congregational minister, wrote more than 600 hymns. His paraphrase of Psalm 23 has been altered here by combining a few phrases from Thomas Sternhold, a sixteenth-century English hymnwriter who also wrote metrical psalm texts.

Tune: CONSOLATION C.M.D.
 Southern Harmony, 1835
 Harm. Erik Routley, 1976
 Alternate tune: CRIMOND (Each stanza above becomes two stanzas.)

God Is Here! As We Your People Meet

Fred Pratt Green, 1978; alt.

1 God is here! As we your peo-ple meet to of - fer praise and prayer,
 2 Here are sym-bols to re - mind us of our life - long need of grace;
 3 Here our chil-dren find a wel-come in the Shep - herd's flock and fold;
 4 Sov - ereign God, of earth and heav-en, in an age of change and doubt

May we find in full - er mea-sure what it is in Christ we share.
 Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit, here the cross has cen - tral place.
 Here as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, help us work your pur - pose out.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Though he retired in 1969, this distinguished British poet has continued to write hymns. In addition to administering several circuits and local congregations, Fred Pratt Green published plays, translations, and poems. Emory University in Atlanta awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH 8.7.8.7.D.
Cyril V. Taylor, 1941