



CENTRAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter (White)

Prayer Focus: Central's Confirmands

Welcome to worship at Central!

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to worship at Central where it is our mission to follow Jesus by loving God and loving our neighbors. I, along with the rest of our clergy team, Rev. Ann Kovan and Rev. Meg Jiunnies, are grateful you've chosen to make Central a part of your day today. We have prayed for you and planned for you, and hope you have a meaningful worship experience. Whether it's your first time worshiping with us or you're a lifelong member, we welcome any opportunity to speak with you about how to connect with God through Central. If it is your first time worshiping with us, please fill out a connect card and bring it to the Welcome Center where you will receive a gift from the church. Please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us this week if we can be of service. Once again, welcome!

Rev. Thomas W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

Confirmation Sunday

Nineteen youth will be confirmed before their Central family this Sunday, April 21, during the combined worship service in the Sanctuary. These Confirmands have participated in a six-month preparation process that included learning the basic beliefs of a theologically sound, United Methodist faith while engaging in thought-provoking activities to help them internalize what they've learned. They also spent time with their mentors and attended a retreat at Epworth by the Sea. Many thanks to everyone who has given of their time and energy to our Confirmands.

Confirmands

*Luke Christian Arthur
Elizabeth Jane Ballenger
Laura Mason Belk
Stewart Charles Brown
Henry Todd Campbell
Preston Hewitt Dawkins
Anna Holland Dawson
Anna Frances Falcone
David Brett Granger
Andrew John Grantham
James Bradley Hanna
Caroline Caldwell Lee
Hunter Welborn Morgan
Francis Sophia Norris
Caroline Christian Peebles
Tate Thorne Sonfield
William Lockett Sonfield
Carson Manning Timms
Rebekah Walker York*

Mentors

*Todd Campbell
Cayce Granger
Molly Lee
John Jacobs
Curt Derrick
Robbie Timms
Rebecca Campbell
Missy Brown
John Frank
Art Justice
John Chase
Julie White
Chris Peebles
Martina Love
Susan Hiller
Ron Garner
Ron Garner
Hank Leeke
Teresa Brunson*

Order of Worship

GATHERING

The People Come Together in the Lord's Name

PARISH CONCERNS

(The service of worship begins. The prelude is offered on behalf of the entire congregation. Quiet meditation and private prayer are encouraged.)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Healey Willan
Hymn Prelude on "The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ST. COLUMBA)

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR

*(*All who are able are asked to stand.)*

*GREETING

Leader: Let us praise our God who tends us like sheep,

People: Who has sent the Good Shepherd to care for us,

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us

People: And we will dwell in God's house for ever.

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 138 ST. COLUMBA
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

COLLECT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Good Lord, who sent Jesus to be the Shepherd of us all, our redemption and our protection:

Direct us by your presence and watch over our paths with guiding love, that we may keep our hearts fixed on you and so follow in the paths of faith that we may come to where you have us;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we now pray:

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.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PROCLAMATION

God's Word is Shared

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 4:5-12
Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Thomas Matthews
The Lord Is My Shepherd

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.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 John 3:16-24
Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

*ACT OF PRAISE 754 (R1) Psalm 23
CHILDREN'S TIME

(Children are invited to the chancel. An offering will be received from the children during Children's Time. After Children's Time, children ages 2nd grade and older will return to their seats and children ages 3K to 1st grade will go with a leader and may be picked up in room #145 or #147 after the service.)

*HYMN 381 BRADBURY
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*GOSPEL LESSON John 10:11-18
Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Thomas Smith

Title: *Quiet Presence*
Series: *Belong, Behave, Believe*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION 33

(Following the profession of faith on page 35, we will sing the Gloria Patri on page 71.)

RESPONDING IN FAITH

We Respond to God’s Word in Worship

- OFFERTORY Robert Powell
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
- *DOXOLOGY 94 LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
- PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING FORTH

We Respond to God’s Grace with Our Lives

- *BENEDICTION
- *HYMN IN PROCESSION 671 SICILIAN MARINERS
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
- CLOSING VOLUNTARY Craig Sellar Lang
Tuba Tune
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Assisting in Worship

- Preacher Rev. Thomas Smith
- Liturgists Rev. Ann Kovan, Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies
- Children’s Time Rev. Ann Kovan
- Organist/Choir Director Dr. Don Grice
- Organist/Choir Accompanist Beverly Hazelwood
- Lay Readers Caroline Peebles, Andrew Grantham
- Acolyte MarthaAnn Johnson
- Crucifer Anna Reaves Yarborough
- Chancel Choir

Music Note

The beloved 23rd psalm is the appointed psalm for today and it is referenced musically throughout the service in hymns, organ music, and anthem. The opening voluntary is a setting by Healey Willan of ST. COLUMBA, the tune associated with *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*, while the offertory is Robert Powell’s arrangement of BRADBURY, the tune linked to *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*. The choir will sing a version of the text by American composer Thomas Matthews (1915-1999). Matthews composed over thirty published anthems, of which *The Lord is My Shepherd* is the most popular, selling well over a million copies.

Roses on the Altar

A rose has been placed on the Sanctuary altar in honor of the birth of Thomas “Byrnes” Ward. Parents Kelsey and Lee, along with big sister Harper, welcomed Byrnes on March 19, 2024. Grandparents are Donna and Steve Reaves and Tommie Ann and Phil Ward.

A rose has been placed on The Well altar in honor of the birth of Carter Ruth Rodel. Parents Brittany and Hans, along with big sisters Amanda and Chandler, welcomed Carter on February 6, 2024. Grandparents are Pam and Doug Maloy and Linda and Rudolf Rodel.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Madison Dean by Cherrie Dean, Corey and Ravyn Colvin, and Rhys, Hannah, and Sam Miles.

IN MEMORY OF

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Betty Searcy by Joseph Carson, Caroline and Joe Jones, Richard Lockwood, John Moorman
Betty Searcy, Curt Ham by Beth Ann & Marvin Owen
HANDBELLS MINISTRY
Nell Starks by Beth Ann & Marvin Owen

IN HONOR OF

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Mary Ann Snow by Anonymous

SPECIAL GIFTS

DISCRETIONARY FUND, YOUTH MINISTRY by Chuck Lindler
UMCOR, YOUTH MINISTRY by United Methodist Women

2024 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2024 General Operating Budget	
Approved Budget for 2024	\$2,318,729.52
Received Week of 04-14-2024	\$25,639.00
Received YTD	\$583,871.89
2024 Capital Building Fund	
Received Week of 04-14-2024	\$0.00
Received YTD	\$8,833.50
2024 Special Gifts	
Received Week of 04-14-2024	\$141.23
Received YTD	\$25,096.84
2024 Endowment Gifts	
Received YTD	\$565.00

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR APRIL 14, 2024

Sanctuary Service	270
The Well Service	111
Service of Prayer & Holy Communion	19
Children's Sunday School	28
Youth Sunday School	0
Adult Sunday School	98
UMYF	45