



West River United Church

'... seeking, sharing, celebrating abundant life in Christ'



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

Andrea Rogers

and all members of West River United Church

Fourth Sunday after Easter Sunday, May 12, 2019

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME*

ONE: We are Easter people; let us greet one another in the name of Christ.
(Please share the peace of Christ)

♪ 'I Can Feel You Near Me God' MV 48 (*projected*)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE*** (*in unison*)

ALL: **The light of Christ shines as a promise of love. For this we give thanks.
Hallelujah!**

♪ 'Open Our Hearts' MV 21 (*projected*)

CALL TO WORSHIP *please stand, as you are able**

ONE: Come, let us gather together in God's house.

ALL: **Let us hear of God's love.**

ONE: Come, let us draw near to God.

ALL: **Let us rest in God's love.**

ONE: Come, let us worship our God.

ALL: **Let us praise God's love!**

♪ 'Rejoice the Lord is King' – VU 213 vs 1 & 4 (*projected*)

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*in unison*)

ALL: **Shepherd of Life, we enter this time of worship in need of the green pasture of your grace, which provides rest and renewal for the work that lies before us. The still waters of your peace calm our anxious spirits. The word of your rod and the wisdom of your staff is the strength and comfort we need to journey through the valley. Even in the face of suffering and injustice, you fill our spirits with the abundance (...lover)**

of your love, and you anoint us in service to bring this hope to the world. This is the place we would dwell our whole life long. Amen.

Together, we pray as Jesus taught us saying

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING***

ONE: Our lives overflow with blessing and goodness, gifts which come from God. Out of the bounty of our lives, let us present to God our gifts and offerings with overflowing thankfulness.

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

♪ **'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' – VU 541** (*projected*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER* (*in unison*)

**ALL: You call to us, O God,
and we hear you calling us to service.
We offer these gifts as a sign
of our response in your name.
May it serve goodness in your world. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

♪ **'Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!' – MV 121 vs 1 & 5**(*projected*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION* (*in unison*)

ALL: Almighty God, you care for us as a good shepherd cares for their (*..lover*)

sheep. When we ignore your call, forgive us. When we get ourselves into trouble, forgive us. Help us to be more aware of your love for us. Help us to love each other. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE*

ONE: No matter what, God loves us.

In God, we know we can expect forgiveness
and a second chance.

ALL: **Thanks be to God for the good news of unfailing love.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

♪ **Psalm 23 (VU 747)** (*projected*)

JOHN 10:1-30 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

¹ "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. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. ¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, (.../over)

but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."¹⁹ Again the Jews were divided because of these words. ²⁰ Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?" ²¹ Others were saying, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?" ²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

MUSIC MINISTRY – Men's Choir

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

HYMN VU 657 'He Leadeth Me' (*projected*)

♪ **'And When You Call for Me'** – MV 96 (*projected*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU 337 'Blessed Assurance' (*projected*)

BENEDICTION* (*in unison*)

**ALL: May the hope of God surround us,
the love of God enfold us,
the power of God protect us,
the presence of God watch over us,
the Spirit of God live in us. Amen.**

♪ **'You Shall Go Out with Joy'** – VU 884 (*projected*)

*2019 *Whole People of God.*, ***Seasons of the Spirit, 2019, L&E,*

***2019 *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019.*