



Wentz's United Church of Christ

3246 Skippack Pike Lansdale, PA 19446 610.584.4855

Sunday, April 30th 2023 10am
Fourth Sunday of Easter

We are
all in this
Together

“You need other people... There’s a great freedom in knowing that. And accepting that. And letting people in. Letting them help you.”

– **Blake Nelson**

PRELUDE:

Greeting and Reply

Opening Hymn: **The Bond of Love (Green Hymnal-395)**

We are one in the bond of love;
We are one in the bond of love;
We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God,
We are one in the bond of love.

Let us sing now everyone;
Let us feel His love begun;
Let us join our hands that the world will know,
We are one in the bond of love.

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Our Church's Mission:

Welcome all into a loving, inclusive faith community,
Seeking to live out the teachings of Jesus,
Building on our own rich history, actively exploring beliefs and assumptions,
and Promoting justice, peace and spiritual growth.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Where you go, Lord,

All: We will go

One: Where you lead us,

All: We will follow

One: We will trust in the Lord

All: Because God always keeps His promises.

One: The Good Shepherd promises to guide us safely home

All: We trust and follow Jesus who has prepared the way for us all.

Hebrew Reading: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no
evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader: This is the word of God, to the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

INVOCATION

Worship & Praise through Music

Passing the Peace of Christ

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (Singing) **(Green Hymnal-740)**

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 **(Debts)**, as we forgive those who trespass against us **(Debtors)**. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Announcements

Offering " **All Things Are Yours!**" **(Green Hymnal-687)**

All things are yours! We make that true
when we return our gifts to you.
And so we give, and so we share,
in Christ's strong name expressing care.

O what a joy to give and then,
out of compassion, give again.
You have no needs. Though that be true,
the gifts we share are given to you.

Doxology (Praise God from whom all blessings flow)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost (*Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*)

Sermonic Hymn: **Trust and Obey (Green Hymnal-443)**

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain]

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]

MESSAGE: Help, I Need Somebody (Ruth 1:8-18)



**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD: "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name"
(Green Hymnal-711)**

Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
we give you thanks before our worship cease,
and now departing, wait your word of peace.

Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard now the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Three-Minute Suggestion:

Please spend the first three minutes with someone who is relatively new to our church family, or new to you. Get to know them like a friend might!

THEN take some time with longtime friends. Thanks!

WORSHIP CONTINUES IN FELLOWSHIP:

Join for Coffee and Connections in the Connections Café.



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Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr. – Senior Pastor
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Mike Todd- Deacon/Pastoral Assistant
Corey Taragna- Lead Trustee
Donna Mower – Guild President
June Wright- Organist
Laura McLennan and Jim O'Donnell- Music Dept
Matt MacDonald- Technology