

**GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH:
INCLUSIVE – INSPIRING – INVOLVED**

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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The Reverend William D. Ingraham, Pastor and Teacher

Welcome!

We are delighted to have you worshiping with us today! The Church of the Good Shepherd (COGS) is a dynamic congregation with a rich history and an exciting ministry in the community.

Our church is a part of a blend of four major Protestant denominations that united together in 1957 to form the United Church of Christ. We claim the early Pilgrim and Puritan settlers of this country as part of our heritage, and celebrate the words of Pastor John Robinson, who in his farewell remarks to the Pilgrims as they were leaving for the “new world,” said,

“There is still more light and truth to break forth from God’s holy word.”

We are a church that:

- Takes the Bible seriously, but not literally.
- Worships God with joyful hearts and open minds.
- Includes children in the life and ministry of the church.
- Celebrates creativity and the arts.
- Seeks to be inclusive of ALL people.
- Believes that growth in wisdom and understanding happens at all stages of life.
- Is committed to work for justice for all people and for the environment.
- Cares for one another, laughs easily, and rests in God’s love.
- Looks to Jesus as teacher, prophet and Child of God.

Order of Worship
January 17, 2010

** Those who wish are invited to stand as they are able.
Nursery care is available for babies to age 3.*

GATHERING SONG "Not My Brother, nor My Sister" #519

PRELUDE "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" Traditional Spiritual
Kate Sauer, organ

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP Mendy Brown

One: Gather together, a people of faith.

We are many individuals, yet we are one in the Spirit.

Many: We are many, indeed – each special in her or his own way.

**We gather here and experience and express something larger,
Something greater than our individual selves.**

One: As we gather, let us appreciate the great diversity in who and how we are.
As we worship together, let us recognize the ways God blesses each,
uniquely.

**Many: We are one in Christ, yet diverse in experience, perspective, ability
and aspiration. We are one in faith, yet differently empowered
for love and service in the world.**

One: Diversity is woven into God’s creation, an essential part of God’s humanity.
Diversity is woven into the very fabric of our church family as well.

**Many: We give thanks to God for the beauty, wonder and diversity
of God’s creation.**

**All: May our worship in this place, and our lives and service in the world,
Be a celebration of the many gifts of God. May our lives be a living
testimony to the abundance of God’s blessings, for us, and for all creation.**

*OPENING HYMN "God of Change and Glory" #177

*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Mendy Brown

One: Please pray with me.

All: **Our Gracious, Loving God,**

We give you thanks for the abundance of your blessings, and for your love of all the world that we have come to know in Jesus the Christ.

We ask you to stir among us the power of your Holy Spirit, that in this hour of worship and praise, we might be inspired by you and your Word.

Help us to see the different gifts you give us, and to be thankful.

Help us learn to use them in your service, both in this church and through all the world. And help us, Loving God, as a church family,

to be a community that recognizes and celebrates the diversity of your human creation, to the end all may be welcomed here,

and each may be empowered to faithful, joyful living.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM "Steal Away" Traditional Spiritual
Men's Ensemble arr. by Healvy

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Mendy Brown

SERMON "Spiritual Gifts" Rev. Ingraham

SILENT PRAYER / PASTORAL PRAYER / OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

Our Father, our Mother, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation Mendy Brown

Offertory *Dorenda Morse, piano*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessing flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts.

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication Mendy Brown

*PARTING HYMN "O for a World" (vs. 1, 2, & 3) #575

BENEDICTION Rev. Ingraham

(Please leave quietly, so those who wish to listen to the Postlude may do so.)

POSTLUDE *Dorenda Morse, piano*