

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

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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**The Reverend William D. Ingraham, Pastor and Teacher**

*Order of Worship*  
*February 14, 2010*

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

GATHERING SONG "Beautiful Jesus" (vs. 1 & 4) #44

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD'S LOVE and PEACE

*(Please return to your seats when you hear the bells.)*

PRELUDE "See Our Lord in All His Glory" by John Wade  
*Kate Sauer, organ*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Susan Olson-Phillips

One: Jesus went up to the mountaintop to pray.

Many: **Accompanied by three disciples, Peter, John, and James,  
Jesus took a moment apart with God:  
To speak, to listen, and to wait.**

One: The disciples could hardly stay awake.

Many: **They were weighed down with sleep,  
Exhausted from everything they had seen and heard and felt.  
They struggled to stay awake while Jesus offered prayers.**

One: In a moment, Jesus was transfigured before their very eyes.

Many: **Dazzling, all in white, and no longer alone, Jesus looked different.  
In that moment, God's voice rang out, clear and true.**

All: **Today, on this mountainside, and in this very room,  
We open ourselves to seeing and hearing in new ways,  
That we, too, might behold Jesus, God's beloved,  
And learn to follow in heaven's ways. Amen.**

**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.

\*OPENING HYMN "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" #182

\*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Susan Olson-Phillips

One: Please pray with me.

**All: Our Gracious and Heavenly God,  
We have gathered here in Christ's name, singing together,  
listening, and offering our prayers. We seek to be a community  
of faith and hope and love. We open ourselves to your Holy Spirit,  
longing to see and hear in new ways. Bless us, loving God,  
with a better understanding of your Word. Inspire us  
to follow faithfully in the ways of Jesus. Help us to integrate  
your love and mercy into our ways of thinking, and of being,  
and of living in the world. Grant us, we pray, a new and renewed vision  
of your call to service, that each of us, and the whole of the church,  
can be a living witness to your boundless love and mercy.  
This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ANTHEM "In This Very Room" by Ron Harris  
*Chancel Choir*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 9:28-36 Susan Olson-Phillips

SERMON "Mountaintop Experience" 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

Susan Olson-Phillips

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

Susan Olson-Phillips

\*PARTING HYMN "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" #76

BENEDICTION Rev. Ingraham

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

POSTLUDE "Recessional" by Raymond Haan  
*Kate Sauer, organ*