

**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 28, 2010*

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

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.

GATHERING SONG "We Sing to You, O God" #9

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE

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

PRELUDE "Aria" by Healy Willan
Kate Sauer, organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP Bob Rosenak

One: Welcome, friends and family, to this house of worship.
Enter into God’s presence and be glad, for love grows here.

**Many: We gather in the presence of God and one another,
Grateful for heavenly love and boundless mercy.**

One: Let your hearts be glad! For in good and troubled times, alike,
God’s strong hand is ever present, to strengthen and to guide.

**Many: The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?**

One: Take courage, brothers and sisters, and let your hearts be glad.
God’s love, mercy and grace are a shelter for us, now and always.

**Many: We will wait on the Lord, and our hearts will take courage.
We will trust in God’s goodness, and live boldly as children of love.**

**All: We will see the goodness of God in the land of the living,
And trust in God’s strength to sustain us, both now, and always.**

*OPENING HYMN "Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good" #6

*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Bob Rosenak

One: Please pray with me.

**All: Our Loving, Heavenly God,
Our days can grow dark, and the way before us, long and difficult.
We are not always up to the tasks we face, the challenges we encounter,
and the struggles we endure. We have not always been faithful.
We have not always been generous. Forgive us, we pray,
and strengthen us. Be a shelter for us in the midst of trouble,
and calm the storm of our worries and our doubts. Inspire us
to a bold faith, that we might build our lives on your boundless love
and mercy. Teach us the ways of justice and peace, and empower us
to put our trust in you. Help us to give our lives to your service,
even when we feel vulnerable or afraid. Remind us always
of your care for all earth's children, and show us your goodness,
so that we can learn to bring your honor with our whole lives.
This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Here I Am, Lord" by Schutte/Schrader
Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 27 Bob Rosenak

SERMON "Whom Shall I Fear?" Rev. Ingraham

SILENT PRAYER / PASTORAL PRAYER / OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

**Our Father, our Mother, who is in heaven, Holy be your name.
Your Kingdom come, your 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 yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation Bob Rosenak

Offertory "Italian Concerto, Second Movement" by J.S. Bach
Dorenda Morse, pianist

*Doxology
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

*Prayer of Dedication Bob Rosenak

*PARTING HYMN "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" #410

BENEDICTION Rev. Ingraham

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

POSTLUDE "Vivace" by G. F. Handel
Kate Sauer, organist