

**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
June 13, 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 "I Will Trust in the Lord" #416

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE

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

PRELUDE "Allegro Molto" from "Sonata in D", Op. 6 by Beethoven
Duet – Dorenda Morse and Linda Gilmour

*CALL TO WORSHIP Mendy Brown

One: Ahab was king of Israel, the northern kingdom. He had taken Jezebel as wife. She was a native of the nearby nation of Sidon, the daughter of their king.

Many: Ahab had a shrine built to Jezebel’s god, and together, they worshiped there. This was an offense to Yahweh.

Worshiping another deity was strictly forbidden.

One: But that was not the only offense to God in Ahab’s court. Today’s story of Naboth and his vineyard gives testimony to Jezebel’s manipulation of Jewish law.

Many: Using the legal system to her advantage, she arranged a mock trial of Naboth. With no hope of defense or appeal, he was accused and summarily executed.

One: King Ahab got what he had longed for: Naboth’s vineyard as a palatial garden. He went down for a victory walk. His sadness and despondency had vanished.

Many: But the prophet Elijah found him there and proclaimed a harsh foretelling: What Ahab had allowed was evil in God’s eyes. There would be dire consequences for him for what had been done in his name.

All: This is a remarkable story from our ancient scriptures. We give God thanks, and pray that the Spirit will stir new insight and understand in us today.

*OPENING HYMN "I Would Be True" #492

*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Mendy Brown

One: Please pray with me.

All: Most gracious and loving God,

We have gathered in this place as a people of faith, greeting one another in the name of love, and singing hymns to your praise.

We prepare ourselves now for the reading and expounding of scripture – words that have been preserved through the centuries

by countless generations. Give us new ears to hear, and open minds to comprehend afresh, the things our historic faith might teach us.

Inspire us to be dedicated in the quest for your truth, that we might fashion our hearts and lives after the ways of heaven. Teach us to live according to your intentions and to serve you with our whole selves.

This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ANTHEM "Prayer for the Gifts" by Kinley Lange
Women's Ensemble

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 21:1-21a Mendy Brown

SERMON "Naboth's Vineyard" 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 Mendy Brown

Offertory "He Leadeth Me" with "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"
Dorenda Morse, piano by Bradbury/Larson

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings 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 Savior, Let Me Walk with You" #503

BENEDICTION Rev. Ingraham

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

POSTLUDE "The Light of the World Is Jesus" by Bliss/Hayes
Dorenda Morse, piano