

**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
July 4, 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 "O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder" #35

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE

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

PRELUDE

Penny Voss, organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 30)*

Richard Mitchell

One: Let us sing praises to God, all you faithful ones,

Many: and give thanks to God’s holy name.

One: God does not abandon us in our distress.

Many: God’s healing presence restores us to life.

One: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Many: Indeed, God turns our mourning into dancing;

God takes off our sackcloth and clothes us with joy.

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God, and not be silent.

Many: O Lord, our God, we will give thanks to you forever!

*OPENING HYMN "God of the Prophets" #358

*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Richard Mitchell

One: Please pray with me.

**All: Gracious and loving God,
we give you thanks for all the blessings we experience —
the freedom to worship you without fear,
the bounty and diversity of your creation,
and the precious gift of unexpected joy.
As we draw near to you this hour,
may we immerse ourselves in your healing presence.
Refresh us and renew us
that we might become faithful laborers
in your harvest of peace, justice, and joy.
We pray in the name of our great Healer, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Fill My Cup, Lord" by Richard Blanchard
Lois Tulga, soloist

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Orp Christopher

PRESENTATION "COGS' New Orleans Mission" New Orleans
Mission Team

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 Richard Mitchell

Offertory Penny Voss, organist

*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 Richard Mitchell

*PARTING HYMN "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian" (vs. 1 & 3) #355

BENEDICTION Richard Mitchell

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

POSTLUDE Penny Voss, organist