

**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 11, 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 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" #31

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE

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

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision" arr. by Paul Manz  
*Kate Sauer, organist*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Bruce St John

One: We gather each week, followers of Jesus, seeking to walk in heaven’s ways.  
Singing and praying, we open ourselves to God’s call in this time and place.

**Many: Week by week the scriptures are read and expounded in our hearing.  
We seek faith’s grounding for the living of our lives, day by day.**

One: The stories we hear over and over again, year after year, are challenging.  
Can we open our hearts and minds to a fresh hearing and a new understanding?

**Many: We depend upon the Spirit to lead our thoughts where they need to go.  
May divine insight inspire us to draw new conclusions for the present day.**

One: The story of the Good Samaritan is both bound in time and place, and timeless.  
It affords an opportunity to examine our affiliations, principles and prejudices.

**Many: Who do we name as a part of our community? With whom will we affiliate?  
What do we require of a person in need before we are willing to offer help?**

**All: May we learn at a deep, personal level that all people are children of God.  
May we truly be caring neighbors, even across fences that would divide us.**

\*OPENING HYMN "Dear God, Embracing Humankind" #502

\*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Bruce St John

One: Please pray with me.

**All: Our God of heaven and earth,  
You have created us as a good and intentional part of a broad  
and diverse creation, and we give you thanks. Our lives are immersed  
in the cultures and perspectives that we hold dear, and we are grateful.  
We offer you praise for the countless blessings of who we are and how  
we live together in this place. Yet we are not alone in this community,  
or in the world. Help us to recognize that vast diversity of peoples,  
cultures and identities that define humanity, and to live lives  
that honor and celebrate the many differences among us. Help us, too,  
to tear down the walls that divide, that we might truly live  
with neighborly care. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Panis Angelicus" by C. Franck  
*sung by Lois Tulga and Jean Lindahl*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:25-37 Bruce St John

SERMON "Being Neighborly" 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 Bruce St John

Offertory "We Love Your Realm, O God" by Lavon Bayler  
*Kate Sauer, 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 Bruce St John

\*COMMUNION HYMN "Break Now the Bread of Life" #321

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Everyone is welcomed to receive communion in this church. We use grape  
juice, bread and a gluten-free alternative. Communion will be served at the  
front of the church by intinction, where participants dip bread in a chalice.  
Everyone is invited, row by row, to come forward by the center aisle.  
Please return to your seats by a side aisle.*

Communion Music *Kate Sauer, organist*

\*PARTING HYMN "I Would Be True" #492

BENEDICTION Rev. Ingraham

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

POSTLUDE "Allegro" by G. F. Handel  
*Kate Sauer, organist*