

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

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

7834 Tennyson Street NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87122

Phone: 505-856-1004 [Fax: 505-856-7759]

E-mail: cogs@goodshepherdunitedchurch.com

Website: www.goodshepherdunitedchurch.com

The Reverend William D. Ingraham, Pastor and Teacher

Order of Worship
August 1, 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 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” #23

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Mendy Brown

JOYS and CONCERNS

SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE
(Please return to your seats when you hear the bells.)

PRELUDE “God’s Time Is the Best” by J.S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP Kirby Lewis

One: Merciful God, we know that You love us
and that You call us to fullness of life.

**Many: But around us and within us
we see the brokenness of the world and of Your ways.**

One: Our successes leave us empty. Our progress does not satisfy.
Our prosperous land is not the promised land of our longing.

**Many: Forgive our willful neglect of Your word,
our insensitivity to the needs of other,
and our failure to feed the spirit that is within us.**

ALL: Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN “O Savior, Let Me Walk with You” #503

UNISON MORNING PRAYER Kirby Lewis

**Gracious God, gentle in Your power and strong in Your tenderness,
You have brought us forth from the womb of Your being and breathed
into us the breath of life. We know that we do not live by bread alone
but by every word that comes from You. Feed our deep hungers
with the living bread that You give us in Jesus Christ. May Jesus' promise,
"Where two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I in the midst of them,"
be fulfilled in us. Make us a joyful company of Your people
and a rainbow of hope, so that with the faithful in every place and time
we may praise and honor You, O God Most High. Amen.**

UNISON SUNG RESPONSE TO PRAYER "Masithi" #760

ANTHEM "Art Thou Troubled" by G.F. Handel
Karah Williams, soloist

A BRIEF UNISON SCRIPTURE READING John 3:16 Kirby Lewis

**For God so loved the world
That He gave His only Son,
So that everyone who believes in Him
May not perish
But may have eternal life.**
(Revised Standard Version)

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STATEMENT OF FAITH – *in unison* #885

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE and SERMON
"A Bunny Rabbit Worth Remembering" Rev. Rath

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: A Bidding Prayer – Silent Prayers – The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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 Kirby Lewis

Offering Invitation
Offertory "Aria" by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*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 Kirby Lewis

COMMUNION HYMN (*seated*) "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" #417
(verses 1, 2, 3, and alternate 4th verse)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION AND OFFERINGS

– *Please bring your gifts and offerings as you come forward for Communion* –

LITURGY

Page 2 ff. (New Century Hymnal)
Confession – Assurance of Pardon – Passing of the Peace of God
Page 5 ff.
Invitation – The Communion
Page 10
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Music "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" by Joseph Parry

*PARTING HYMN "My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff" #418

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION Rev. Rath

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

POSTLUDE "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" by Anthony Showalter

***Please help us load The Storehouse
truck with cans! Thank you!***