

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
INCLUSIVE – INSPIRING – INVOLVED

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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The Reverend William D. Ingraham, Pastor and Teacher

Order of Worship
August 22, 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	"Surely No One Can Be Safer"	#487
WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS		Mendy Brown
JOYS and CONCERNS		
SHARING GOD’S LOVE and PEACE		
	<i>(Please return to your seats when you hear the bells.)</i>	
PRELUDE	"I Love Thee"	by L.V. Beethoven
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Paula Paul
One:	Gather here, people of faith and hope, encircled by the love of God. Welcome one another with heavenly mercy and tenderness.	
Many:	We gather today, sheltered by God’s loving kindness, and embraced by a community called to hold each other through times of trouble.	
One:	When enemies assail, and injustice’s cruelties weigh heavily upon us, we can draw strength from a heavenly love that will never let’s us go.	
Many:	When we feel weak or afraid, or when our burdens are too much to bear, we can turn to the God of heaven, leaning upon the everlasting arms.	
One:	This day and every day, through good times and bad, alike, let us offer God our highest praise, for God’s mercy endures forever.	
Many:	The God of heaven is our hope and our trust, a source of hope when the way is weary and the pathways of our lives and long and hard.	
All:	Let us praise God with all of our hearts, and minds, and strength, knowing that nothing in all creation can separate us from God’s love and care.	

*OPENING HYMN "How Firm a Foundation" (vs. 1 - 3) #407

*MORNING PRAYER (in unison) Paula Paul

One: Please pray with me.

All: Our Heavenly, Loving God,

From the rising of the unto sun to it's setting, and to it's rising again, we live our lives in the warm embrace of your love and care. When the days are good, we take you for granted, often forgetting to express our gratitude for your tenderness and mercy. When the days are long and difficult, we cry out to you, desperate for your strong arm to sustain us, and for your hand to guide us. Please open our hearts and minds to your boundless love and mercy, and teach us to put our trust in you. Lead us through life's toil and trouble, and give us hearts to sing your praise whatever our days may hold. And help us, God of heaven, always to walk in the ways of Jesus – that whatever life may bring us, we will be faithful to your call to proclaim justice, love and mercy for all the world. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM A selection by COGS Summer Singers

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Ingraham

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 71:1-6 Paula Paul

SERMON "Taking Refuge" 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

Paula Paul

Offertory

"Our Refuge and Strength"

D. F. Callender

*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

Paula Paul

*PARTING HYMN "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (vs. 1 - 3)

#439

BENEDICTION

Rev. Ingraham

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

POSTLUDE

"The Solid Rock"

by Wm. Bradbury