WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

OPENING DUET  “The Lord is My Shepherd”  Henry Smart
Colleen Oates, Jenny James, Soloists  Psalm 23

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP  |  Responsively  Adapted from Rachel and David Witkovsky
Peter called to the people,
inviting them into unity and solidarity in Christ.
To break bread together
and to worship together.
We too hear the call
to join the many generations before us:
Worshiping a God whose love transcends time, space, and age,
telling the stories of God’s mighty acts in our midst
Let us praise God together, all of us,
young and old, rich and poor, one people united in a celebration of faith.
Let us worship God!

HYMN OF ASSURANCE  |  Glory to God 410  W. ŻLOBIE LEŻY
“God is Calling through the Whisper”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  |  Unison  Jill Duffield
Lord, you are our Shepherd.
You seek us when we are lost and guide us in life-giving ways.
Yet, we turn from you and heed the voices of thieves and bandits.
You know us by name,
but we refuse to hear your call and instead go our own way.
Forgive us for failing to follow you.
Quiet the noise around and within us
so that we might better recognize your word and do your will.
Come close, calm our fears, go ahead of us,
so that we might see you clearly, enter by the gate and be saved. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS  |  Responsively
Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we need not fear evil.
God is with us. God’s rod and staff comforts us. God forgives and transforms us.
Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen!

TIME FOR CHILDREN  Pastor Rosy and Pastor David
WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

John 10:1-10 (NRSV N. T. Pg. 103)

Jesus says: I am the gate for the sheep; enter by me and be saved.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLE’S

Acts 2:42-47 (NRSV N. T. Pg. 120)

The believers share all things, worshiping and eating together.

SERMON

Pastor Rosy Robson

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

HYMN OF COMFORT | Glory to God 187

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Unison

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil,
and delivering us from death to life eternal.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Amazing Grace”
Colleen Oates, Soloist

American Folk Hymn
Setting by Craig Courtney

CLOSING PRAYER | Unison

Your presence, Almighty God, brings us mercy and grace.
Stay close as so many live through the dangers of this earth.
Bring your power and love that we may live as Easter people.
Give us trust and hope when the world seems to be falling apart.
And we will praise you all our days. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION and PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Lift High the Cross”
Edwin Walker, Pianist

Fred Bock
410 God Is Calling through the Whisper

1 God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

2 God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needling; strient cry or silent pleading;
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

3 God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bring-ing:
God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2003
MUSIC: Polish carol; harm. Willbur Lee, 1958
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music Harm. © 1958 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

W ZŁOBE LEŻY
8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7
(this tune in a higher key, 128)
Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187

1 Sav-i-or, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.
2 We are yours: in love be-friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.
3 You have prom-ised to re-ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
4 Ear-ly let us seek your fa-vor; ear-ly let us do your will.

In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.
Keep your flock: from sin de-fend us; seek us when we go a-stray.
you have mer-cy to re-lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Bless-ed Lord and on-ly Sav-i-or, with your love our spir-its fill.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear your chil-dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us; love us still.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear your chil-dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us; love us still.

This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer’s name.

TEXT: Thrupp’s Hymns for the Young, 1836, alt.
MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1859, alt.