

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 21 April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements

Greeting**: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.
**Those who believe in me, even though they die,
will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me
will never die."**

(John 11:25)

Praise Choruses: 3096 "Gentle Shepherd"
2058 "Shepherd Me, O God"

Opening Prayer**:

O God, our shepherd, our gate, our lamb:
In the resurrection of your Son, you have brought us
into your pasture.

**Guide us to your clear streams,
and tame the wolf at our gate;
through Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.**

(Jn 10:11; Jn 10:9; Jn 1:36)

Opening Hymn: 545 "The Church's One Foundation"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 595 "Whether the Word Be Preached
or Read" (Last verse only) *(Charles Wesley)*

First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12

(2)

Psalter: 137 (*Response 1*) Psalm 23

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Hymn of Preparation: 407 "Close to Thee"

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 887 "Affirmation from
Romans 8:35, 37-39"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

Doxology: 75 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Thanksgiving^:

Let us pray.
**Holy Spirit, you have given us life and love
and each other.**

(3)

**In response, we offer you our money,
our time, and ourselves
in order to spread that life and love.
Put us to work and to love where you will,
with those near or far.
In the name of Christ, receive our offering.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn: 700 "Abide with Me"

Dismissal with Blessing**:

We are sent forth in the power of Christ's resurrection.

Alleluia!

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. Amen.**

Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth

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