

April 30, 2023

4th Sunday of Easter

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

Pastor Russel contact information:

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Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Matthew 22: 34-39

\*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Leader: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

\*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

“Wait! There’s One More Act’

Dai Morgan

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Some of the earliest memories of the church record acts of generosity, of meeting the needs of any and all. The church earned the goodwill of everyone who witnessed and experienced. this gladness. Let us give with open hearts, as our ancient brothers and sisters did.

THE LORD’S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

‘Trumpet Voluntary’

John Stanley

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

‘Sweet, Sweet Spirit’

UMH #334

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

‘In the Cross of Christ I Glory’

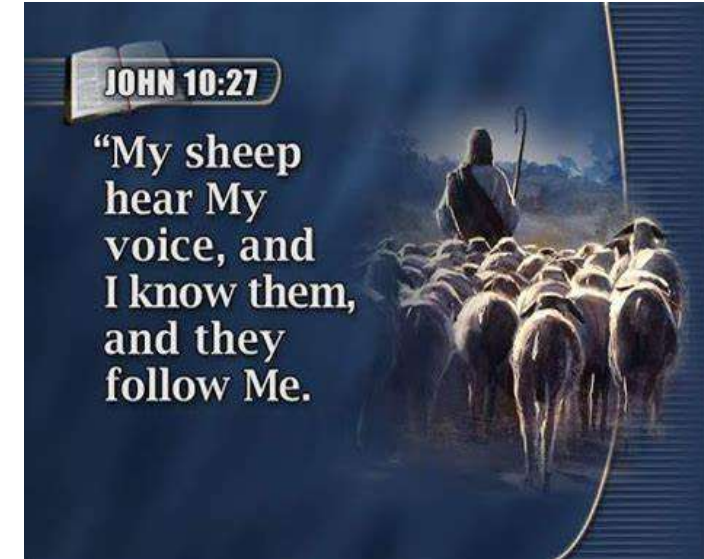
No. 295 V. 1 & 4

\*POSTLUDE

‘Postlude Choral Song’

S. S. Wesley

**WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**



Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE

Improvisation on “God of Grace and God of Glory’

Paul Manz

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING WORDS

Are we able to be imitators of Christ, as God's beloved children? Then, let us walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering, and a sacrifice to God, Come, let us worship and give honor to the One who first loved us.

## CENTERING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling'

UMH #384

## CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

### OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead us'

No. 381

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: Give thanks to the lord, for the Lord is good.**

Leader: The loving kindness of the Lord is everlasting

**People: How blessed are those who keep justice and practice righteousness.**

Leader: Let all the people say, "Amen".

**People: Praise the Lord! Amen.**

### OPENING PRAYER

### INTROIT

'Spirit of the Living God'

No. 393

### CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### GENERAL CONFESSION

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### SILENT CONFESSION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PRAYER

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### HYMN OF PRAYER

'Sweet Hour of Prayer'

No. 496 V. 1

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### LORD'S PRAYER

#### PRAYER RESPONSE

'Sweet Hour of Prayer'

No. 496 V. 3

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: May we stand and offer one another signs of peace and reconciliation.

## CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

**People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.**

### CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."*

### FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6: 1-9

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Alleluia'

No. 186

*"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"*

Leader: The Lord be with you,

**People: and also with you.**

Leader: A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**