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May 7, 2017

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.

All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

Welcome and Announcements

* Gathering Hymn MV #126 – “*Are You a Shepherd?*”

Call to Worship

One: When God tripped over the stars this week and sent great lightning sparks across the night,

All: God’s name was Power.

One: When God stood in the morning dew a few weeks back and whispered Mary’s name fresh from the tomb,

All: God’s name was Life.

One: When God held out hands to Thomas and told him to hold on and follow,

All: God’s name was Shepherd.

One: When God pours water this morning and asks us to find heaven in every drop,

All: God’s name is Grace.

One: When God shook us awake today and hollowed out an unused moment in front of us to step into,

All: God’s name is Creator.

One: When God found us waiting here in the space between heaven and earth, now and not yet,

All: God’s name is Love.

One: Friends, let us worship God.

All: The God of many names.

* Opening Hymn VU #398 – “*Great Shepherd of Your People*”

Prayer of Approach

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, walk beside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. Loving God, we would follow you wherever you might lead. Patient God, we would follow you. Forgive us when we stumble and when we stray. Forgive us

when, distracted we lose our way. Be the one to whom we turn, whose hand we hold, the Shepherd who leads us safely to the fold. Compassionate God, we would follow you wherever you might lead. God, we would follow you. AMEN

* Hymn VU #635 – “*All the Way My Saviour Leads Me*”

The Word

📖 Scripture Reading – John 10: 1-10
Acts 2: 42-47

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – “*Shepherd and the sheep.*”

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – “*10,000 Reasons*”

The Response

* Offering / Response

Stir up in our hearts, O Lord,

What you want us to do.

You showed your love upon the cross.

We want to give of our lives to you. (repeat all)

Children’s Time / Celebration of Bible Adventures

Recognition of Bible Adventures Teachers

One: There are many gifts which we have been given...

Two: ... time and talent you have offered to us.

Congregational Recognition: We remember the promise we make at baptism to provide Christian example and nurture for all. We celebrate the response of these teachers to God’s call. We thank them for the ministry that they have offered, the love that they have shown, and their presence among us, as teachers and learners. They have blessed us with all their gifts and with their presence.

One: Know that we all rejoice in the gifts that you have offered to us this past year and that we continue to affirm your ministry within this community.

Celebration of Communion

One: May the God of green pastures be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Beloved, still your hearts before God.

All: We open them to the One who fills them with living water.

One: Children of God, give thanks for the sake of God's name.

All: Our praise is continually offered to our Heart, our Shepherd, and our Savior.

One: Imaginative Shepherd, into the bitterness of chaos...
...singing your praise and our thanksgiving:

**All: Holy, holy, holy are you, Good Shepherd of all peoples.
Still waters, green pastures, sparkling stars join all
creation in praising you. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comforts us. Hosanna in the
highest!**

One: You are holy, yet compassionate, God of our hearts...
... we celebrate that mystery we call faith:

**All: Christ died, walking through death's valley; Christ was
raised, the Good Shepherd for us all; Christ will come, to
bring all into the one flock of God.**

Post-Communion Prayer

**Let us go to be bold before God. We will speak up for all
people who long for healing and hope. Let us go to be like a
shepherd to all of Jesus' sisters and brothers. We will seek
justice, we will serve the outcast. Let us go anointed with the
Holy Spirit. We will bring goodness and mercy to all. AMEN**

* Hymn – *"I've Decided to Follow Jesus"* (see back page of announcements)

* Benediction / Response

**With a vision of hope we move along.
Empowered by faith we carry on.
Reaching out far and wide, moving forward reaching high.
Filled with hope, filled with dreams, we journey on.**

Patrick Woodbeck, Student Minister

Laura Steidl, Music Director

Luci Toews, Office Administrator

Myrna Hagues, Organist

Paulette Cote, Liturgist

Gina Grant, Custodian

Ushers: Edna Cechvala and Nancy Sulkers

Greeters: Cheryl Cale and Chanel Cale

Communion Servers: Sylvia & Bob Mann and Shirley & Gord Goossen