



Bellflower UMC

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

GREETINGS¹

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE² & CANDLES 

Here I am to worship. Here I am to bow down.

Here I am to say that You're my God.

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy

Altogether wonderful to me (2x)

CALL TO WORSHIP³

Come, walk by still waters.

We follow the Shepherd.

Come, lie down in green pastures.

We trust the Shepherd.

Come, dine at the table of abundance.

We are fed by the Shepherd.

Come, dwell in God's house.

We live in the Shepherd's care.

HYMN 

140. Great Is Thy Faithfulness

381. Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

GOSPEL

John 10:1-5

RESPONSE

Psalms 23:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he

leadeth me beside the still waters.

¹ Cover art: Mauve, Anton. Circa 1880. . *Landscape with Shepherd and Sheep*.
Cropped to fit.

² Tim Hughes; © Copyright 2001 Thankyou Music

³ Mary Petrina Boyd, *Ministry Matters*,
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5917>

GOSPEL

John 10:6-10

RESPONSE

Psalms 23:3

**He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS⁴

The psalmist says, "I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplication." Using a few words or a phrase, how has God heard your voice and supplication?

...

(after each testimony) **Gracious is the Lord,
and righteous; our God is merciful.**

Leader: The psalmist also says, "Because [God] inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live." Using a few words or a phrase, in what areas of your life do you need to call on God's help today?

...

(after each testimony) **Gracious is the Lord,
and righteous; our God is merciful.**

Merciful God, even as we remember how you have heard us in the past, we come to you again in our need, carrying burdens too large to bear. And yet, even in our need, we praise you. We praise you because we remember all you have done in the past and know that you will continue to love us and our community into flourishing. As we lay our burdens at your feet, transform the outpouring of our praise into love for all of

⁴ Adapted from Psalm 116 NRSVUE by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2022.

our neighbors, so that we may grow more like you every day. **Amen.**

RESPONSE

Psalm 23:4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

LORD'S PRAYER - #895

Our Father, who art in heaven, ...

RESPONSE 🎵

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:19-25

RESPONSE

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:42-47

RESPONSE

Psalm 23:6

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

HYMN 🎵

2022. Great Is the Lord

OFFERING & PEACE

DOXOLOGY - #95 🎵

HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Go in peace.

POSTLUDE & CANDLES

Go Now In Peace

Bellflower UMC spreads God's love within our church family and throughout our communities and world using our prayers, our gifts and our service; thus to become a shelter of love and a community of compassion..

To learn more, visit facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (309-722-1500, rob@methodist.cc).