

Calvary Church Sunday Worship April 21, 2024

* Please rise if able. **Bold text** is spoken by the congregation.

Prelude: Green Pastures by Harold Darke

Sue Paro, organ

Welcome and Poem

Rev. Cynthia Good

Introit: Surely the Presence of the Lord by Lanny Wolfe

Calvary Choir

*Gathering Words

Lois Howry, worship leader

God is our shepherd

We have everything we need

God is our rock

A sure foundation

God is wind and breath

Our very life itself

God came in Jesus

And God comes to us again

We worship our God who comes to us

Today and always

*Unison Prayer

Lois Howry

Shepherd us, O God, help us to listen to your voice. Help us to follow you in green pastures but also deep valleys. Help us to rest and feast, to trust in your goodness all the days of our lives. And help us to hear the call of all your flock, not just those whose voices we recognize. Help us to love each other in truth and in action because you have shown us how. Amen.

*Passing the Peace: The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Easter Hymn Sing

Scripture: John 10:11-18 – from the NRSV updated edition

Lois Howry

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as God knows me, and I know the God. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason God loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.

The word of God for us. Thanks be to God.

Music: Shepherd Me, O God by Marty Haugen, arr. by Mark Hayes Calvary Choir

Children's Time Terry Rice

Song: Hymn of Promise, verse 3

707 (large hymnal)

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Scripture: I John 3:16-24

Lois Howry

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for our family. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees another in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey the commandments and do what pleases God.

And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of God to us. Thanks be to God.

Thoughts Rev. Good



*Affirmation of Faith: Psalm 23, Pamela Greenberg God is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.
You lay me down in lush meadows.

Rev. Good

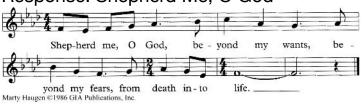
You guide me toward tranquil waters, reviving my soul. You lead me down paths of righteousness, for that is your way.

And when I walk through the valley, overshadowed by death, I will fear no harm, for you are with me.

Your rod and staff – they comfort me. You spread a table before me in face of my greatest fears.

You drench my head with oil; my cup overflows the brim. Surely goodness and kindness will accompany me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Holy for the length of my days. Response: Shepherd Me, O God

2058 (small hymnal)



Sharing of Prayers and Prayer of the People

Rev. Good

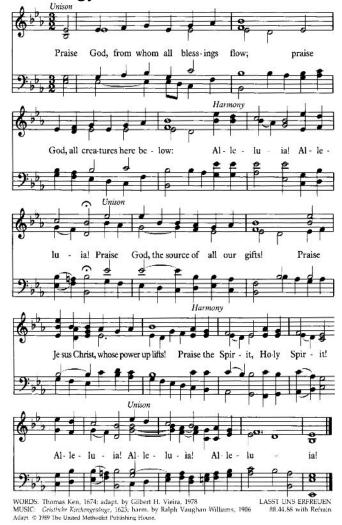
We invite you to use your chosen words for God: Father, Mother, or...

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

*Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

94 (large hymnal)



*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Good

God, in your presence, we are nourished in abundance. You make our weary hearts glad. You awaken us to the ordinary gifts that surround us. May fears of scarcity never let us forget all that we have. Keep us from greed. Keep us from selfishness. Let generosity and hospitality always pour forth from this place. Amen.



381 (large hymnal)

Announcements Rev. Good

Theology on Tap today at 2 PM: What is American Individualism and does it match our Christian values? Come to Town Tavern, 201 Mass Ave in Arlington, to chat about this topic.

Selah today at 5 PM: Youth grades 6 and up are invited to meet at Calvary for food, games, and some creative thinking about the future of the youth room in the basement!

Book Club 4/23 7 PM: Join us in the Parlor to discuss *Tell the Wolves I'm Home* by Carol Brunt.

Buy Nothing Event 4/27 1-3 PM: Extinction Rebellion is hosting a free stuff swap in the Fellowship Hall. To RSVP, visit https://xrboston.org/action/earth-month-buy-nothing-party/

Mission Trip Verbal Commitments Due 4/28: Speak to Kaitlyn Threhane or Susan G!

News of Graduates: We are including high school and college graduation news in the May and June newsletters! Please email office@calvaryarlington.org with this information:

- name of school
- for college: degree type (BS, BA, etc.), major/minor/concentration
- (optional) future plans

Dylan Theodore James Luongo was born around 12:20 AM on April 15, 2024! He was 7 lbs. 14 oz. If you wish to send a card, it can be addressed to Laura Schmidt and Dylan Luongo, 12 Liberty Avenue, Medford MA 02155.

Benediction Rev. Good

Postlude Sue Paro, organ