

GATHERING MUSIC

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATION

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Every individual believer is precious in the sight of the Lord, a shepherd would not lose one sheep, nor a jeweler one diamond, nor a mother one child, nor a man one limb of his body, nor will the Lord lose one of God's beloved people. However little we may be, if we are the Lord's, we may rejoice that we are saved in Christ Jesus. Charles Haddon Spurgeon
- ❖ In most, when you go to church, most churches when they have images of the good shepherd, they show Jesus carrying a nice fluffy lamb. Now fluffy little lambs don't stray from their mommy's. The sheep that will stray is the most difficult, troublesome one. *Desmond Tutu*

SONG: To Know God and to Make God Known (music at end of bulletin)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd."

All: He guides us and protects us. We look to the Good Shepherd to save us from evil and lead us to abundant life.

One: We are led

All: Beside still waters.

One: We are fed

All: At a huge banquet table.

One: We are accompanied

All: Through valleys of shadow and death.

One: We are guided

All: To do justice and righteousness.

One: We are anointed,

All: Blessed and filled.

One: We celebrate

All: Jesus the Good Shepherd.

OUR CONFESSION:

- ALL: The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want.
- Voice 1: But I do Lord. I want things I don't need.
- Voice 2: I want to be loved, but struggle with being more loving.
- Voice 1: Too often I put my needs before the needs of others.
- ALL: He makes me lie down and rest in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters, peaceful waters. He revives and restores my soul.
- Voice 2: Lord, teach us that what we really need is you. You to guide us, you to bring us peace, you to restore our sagging spiritual lives and sense of Godly purpose.
- ALL: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Voice 1: But we confess that we often resist your leading. We desire other paths and make excuses for not following yours.
- ALL: Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
- Voice 2: Through loss and grief and illness,
- Voice 1: Through disappointment and depression,
- Voice 2: Through self-doubt and the attacks of others,
- ALL: I fear no evil
- Voice 1: for you are with me.
- Voice 2: Your rod and your staff,
- Voice 1: Your promises and protection,
- Voice 2: Your spirit inside me lifting me and strengthening me,
- ALL: they comfort me.
- Voice 1: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
- ALL: Lord, lead us at your Table to seek peace with our enemies and peace with our own past.
- Voice 2: You anoint my head with oil.
- Voice 1: My cup overflows.
- ALL: Though I am weak, you choose me. Though I wander, your blessings still flow.
- Voice 2: Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life.
- Voice 1: Surely goodness and love. Surely your Spirit and Salvation, O Lord
- Voice 2: ...chase after me, surround me, embrace me, and will never let go.
- Voice 1: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.
- ALL: Lord, forgive my wandering and bleating. Be my dwelling place. Be my shepherd and teach me to follow you with all my heart, I pray. Amen.

SONG: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (music at end of bulletin)

READING: John 10:11-18 (from *The Message*)

¹¹⁻¹³ "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him.

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father."

MESSAGE: "Follow the Leader?"

MESSAGE RESPONSE: All I Have Is Christ (music at end of bulletin)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, 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 and ever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

L: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Keep us close to you and one another, one flock following you who reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: Will You Come and Follow Me, verses 1,2,4 (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

L: Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



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Will You Come and Follow Me

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The Summons

