

## *Service of Worship*

*March 30, 2025*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

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*2 Corinthians 5:17: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!"*

Welcome/Announcements

Anthem

Call to Worship

Our God is a shepherding God. Our God knows us by name. Our God will never stop searching for us. So if you feel lost, then know that God is seeking you. If you feel found, then know that God will never leave. This is the promise of scripture. This is the promise of God's love. Let us worship our with-us God.

Hymn of Gathering #187 **"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

Prayer of Confession

**If God is a painter, let us be the brush. If God is a musician, let us be the song. If God is an architect, let us be the tools. Let us be the hands. Let us be the builders. But if God is a shepherd, who never stops seeking, let us be willing to be found, no matter how lost we feel. Our God is never far away. Forgive us for forgetting this good news.**

*(Silent prayer)*

In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Text: Psalm 32:1-2, 7,10-11

Music for Meditation

New Testament Text: Luke 15:1-7

Sermon Rev. Todd Davidson

Offering

Doxology – Hymn #606 **"Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow"**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in a seeking God, a with-us and before-us God, a chasing-after-us God. We believe that no matter where we wander or what mountains we climb, *this* God—the God who walked the streets of Jerusalem, shook hands with lepers, patted children on the head, and told stories of love—is always close at hand. So on the good days and the hard days, on the mountains and in the valleys, we believe that we are always being found. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.**

Hymn of Sending #188 **"Jesus Loves Me!"**

Benediction - Poem, by Sarah Are Speed

## The Good Shepherd

Jesus said, *“Who among you wouldn’t leave the 99?  
Who among you wouldn’t look for the one?”*  
Someone in the crowd probably rolled their eyes.  
Someone squirmed and looked at their palms.  
Someone sighed and thought to themselves,  
*This man doesn’t understand the business.  
What fool would leave 99 to look for one?”*  
But maybe God was not talking about us.  
Maybe God was talking about  
God’s own reckless love.  
Maybe God was talking about  
God’s own willingness  
to turn the world upside down for me.

**By Rev. Sarah Are Speed**

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