

# Banning United Methodist Church

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

### GATHERING

#### SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

#### WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

Myrle Petty

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Myrle Petty

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Doug

### WORSHIP OF GOD

#### PRELUDE

Cathy Mauge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

#### †CALL TO WORSHIP

Myrle Petty

L: The Lord is my shepherd. I will fear no darkness.

**P: We will love one another as Christ loves us.**

L: Christ, the Good Shepherd, has compassion for all.

**P: We will love one another as Christ loves us.**

L: Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today.

**P: We will love one another as Christ loves us.**

L: Love is not merely in thought and word but in truth and action.

**P: We will love one another as Christ loves us. Amen.**

#### †OPENING HYMN

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH #140

#### †OPENING PRAYER

Myrle Petty

**Shepherding God, guardian of our souls, You offer us to rest in the shelter of green pastures. Shower us with Your love, and offer us the fullness of life in Your Name. When our spirits are dried, You lead us beside still waters and quench our thirst for righteousness; You restore our souls and heal our battered spirits. Touch our hearts and minds, and may Your goodness and mercy follow us every day of our lives. May we abide in Your love and grace for all eternity. Amen.**

#### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Myrle Petty

Psalm 23 NRSV

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

#### †NEW TESTAMENT READING

Pastor Doug

John 10:11-18 NRSV

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the

sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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.”

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SUNDAY ENSEMBLE

**SERMON** “The Lord is My Shepherd” Pastor Doug

**PRAYERS** Pastor Doug

CHILDREN IN PRAYER (After each slide: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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. Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS** Myrle Petty

**OFFERTORY** Cathy Mauge

†**DOXOLOGY** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Myrle Petty

**As the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep, may we, too, strive to serve our neighbors. Whether next door, across town, or worldwide, may God bless our prayers, gifts, and ministries. In Christ’s Name, we present these gifts. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN** “I Am Thine, O Lord” UMH #419

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

†**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

**POSTLUDE**