

Welcome! We are glad you are here. Please share your joys/concerns by filling out a prayer request and placing it in the prayer basket in the back of the sanctuary. For online worshippers, please use Zoom Chat or Facebook Comments. Prayer requests will be included in the Sunday prayer email unless marked for the Pastor alone. Financial offerings can be placed in the offering box at the back of the sanctuary. Restrooms are near the kitchen, to the left as you exit the Sanctuary. Where you see "please rise" – please do so in body and/or spirit.



Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church

The mission of Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church is to be in partnership with God to transform ourselves, our communities, and our world.

Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo

Service for the Lord's Day ~ October 18, 2026

The Season of Pentecost ~ Ordinary Time 29A

Welcome The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle & A Time of Silence

Prelude

Responsive Call to Worship

We come to worship God in our need,
bringing with us the needs of the world.
We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,
and who knows by experience what human life is like.
We come with our faith and with our doubts,
we come with our hopes and with our fears.
O God, who created us in love,
create us anew in love as we worship You. Amen.

Hymn of Praise *(please rise)* **Lead On, O Gentle Shepherd** *(Tune: Lancashire, "Lead on O King Eternal")*

**Lead on, O Gentle Shepherd, the day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of clover your tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong,
And now, O Gentle Shepherd, we lift our song of love.**

**Lead on, O Gentle Shepherd, 'til sins no longer tempt,
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.**

**Lead on, O Gentle Shepherd, we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears;
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of love.**

Call to Reconciliation *God is present to guide our journey and eager to forgive us when we go astray; therefore, in humility and faith, let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.*

Prayer of Personal and Communal Confession

Loving God, You made us, You shaped us, You gave us breath, Yours is the love that endures, Yours the wisdom and peace we seek. Lord Jesus Christ, You know each name, You know each need. You come looking for us when we stray and shepherd us into the ways of truth and life. Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation; we repent of these hurtful ways. Generous God, in a world of great plenty, the suffering of the poor and hungry is unending and we are ashamed that we take for granted many of the basic essentials of life others are denied. We confess too our own failures of kindness and care when we have caused hurt and disappointment in others.

A time of silence may be kept for personal reflection.

Risen Christ faithful shepherd of Your Father's sheep, teach us to hear Your voice and to follow Your command. May Your rod and staff not only comfort us. but also lead us out of the dark valleys of our life's making. Resurrect in us new faith, hope and love – we pray, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ps. 23; Acts 9:41

Leader: God's mercy overflows as a healing spring to cleanse us of our offenses;
therefore, know that you are forgiven and receive new life in Christ.
Friends believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

Sung Response *(please rise)*

Gloria Patri

Hymn 577 (Avery & Marsh)

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination *(unison)*

Shepherd of Souls, you call us to an abundant feast at the table of your word;
open our hearts to feed on your goodness, that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we might dwell evermore deeply in you. Amen.

First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16

Come Holy Spirit (silence is kept). This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm Hymn GTG 801 *(remain seated)*

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

Gospel Lesson

Mark 10:35-45a

Come Holy Spirit (silence is kept). This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Who Cares for the Shepherd?

Sung Affirmation of Faith GTG 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

*We resolve to pray for each other, our community and our world at 10:10 am or pm –
10:10 being the time we worship on the Lord's Day. Join in whenever you can remember to do so.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer *(Words to the Lord's Prayer found on page 35 in the hymnal, GTG)*

Invitation to a Time of Offering and Dedication

**Holy God, Divine Shepherd, you anoint us with the oil of gladness;
your love overflows our hearts. Accept our offering for the good of the world
as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Hymn of Sending *(Please rise)* *O God in Whom All Life Begins* *(Tune: Bunesan, "Morning has Broken")*

**Gratefully offer talents and service,
Meeting the challenge of this new day,
Partners in mission, Working with vision,
Strengthen Christ's Body in a new way.**

**Faithfully serving all of God's children,
Telling our stories, listening to theirs,
Teaching upholding, With love unfolding,
Sharing each other's burdens and cares.**

**Joyfully praising, learning, supporting,
Finding new paths of service and prayer,
Led by the Spirit, Life we inherit,
Giving God glory now everywhere.**

Charge to the Congregation & Benediction

God is Good—All the Time. All the Time—God is Good.

Postlude

*Refreshments are served after the service – as you leave the sanctuary, go to your left.
Stay for coffee and let us get to know one another.*

*We are an Earth-care church so, unless you plan on taking your bulletin home or to share with others,
please be so kind as to recycle your bulletin in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!*

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Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo
Liturgist – Page Lockhart
Accompanist – Eileen Twiddy

Psalm 23 Authorized (King James) Version & The Passion Translation

¹ The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

The Lord is my best friend and my shepherd. I always have more than enough.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He offers a resting place for me in his luxurious love.

His tracks take me to an oasis of peace, the quiet brook of bliss.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

That's where he restores and revives my life. He opens before me pathways to God's pleasure and leads me along in his footsteps of righteousness so that I can bring honor to his name.

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, even when your path takes me through the valley of deepest darkness, fear will never conquer me, for you already have!

You remain close to me and lead me through it all the way.

Your authority is my strength and my peace.

The comfort of your love takes away my fear. I'll never be lonely, for you are near.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

You become my delicious feast even when my enemies dare to fight.

You anoint me with the fragrance of your Holy Spirit;

you give me all I can drink of you until my heart overflows.

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.

So why would I fear the future? For your goodness and love pursue me all the days of my life. Then afterward, when my life is through, I'll return to your glorious presence to be forever with you!

I found a Hebrew version of this Psalm on someone's blog and this is how he introduced it: *performed by the band MIQEDEM, a word that means "from the east." I only recently stumbled across this version of it, but I've become obsessed. The harmonies are beautiful and the music itself is arresting. And halfway through the song, the tone of the song shifts as they sing v. 4. The tempo picks up and the percussion really begins to take on a life of its own. It's just a great rendition.* I especially appreciate hearing it in Hebrew as that is closer to the way Jesus would have heard it. For a beautiful musical rendition of the 23rd Psalm, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWM8gSSnz_8