



April 21, 2024
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

www.greenfieldcharge.org
greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com

Facebook: Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

Pastor

Mrs. Wendy Farber

(c) 814-937-0465

farberhome@atlanticbb.net

Today's Services led by
Church Members

Pianist

Sylvia Olewinski (MH)

Audio Tech

Jeff Farber (Greenfield)

Organist

Gary McIntyre (Grace)

Sunday Morning Meditation

Be bold before God, for Christ, the rejected one, has become the cornerstone of our faith. Through the Good Shepherd, you are found, comforted, and loved.

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt. Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

The Lord is my shepherd, I will fear no darkness.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Christ, the good shepherd, has compassion for all.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Love, not merely in thought and word,
but in truth and action.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

* *Invocation*

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

* *Opening Hymn* *“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”*

Mt Hope VH #236

Greenfield CH#688

Grace VH #236

Prayer of Yearning

Good Shepherd, help us become your bold acolytes, lighting the way of your truth for all to see. Help us choose honorable paths through green pastures and still waters amid the darkest valleys of our lives. For you are greater than our fears and you know how to bring us peace. As you laid down your life for us, may we strive to live for others. We choose you this day, for no other name under heaven inspires us to greater joy. Amen.

Words of Assurance

You are welcome at the table of the Lord.
The good Shepherd beckons all to come and be restored.
Rejoice in the knowledge that you are loved!

The Epistle Reading

1 John 3:16-24 NRSV

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ 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 Reading of the Holy Gospel*

John 10:11-18 NRSV

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)

TH #497

¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes^[a] 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.”

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message / Congregation Conversation

* *Meditation Hymn*

“The Solid Rock”

Mt Hope VH #232

Greenfield CH #529

Grace VH #232

Today's Message:

The Example of Love

** The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sung Response

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

TH # 501

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

* Doxology

TH # 551

* Offertory Prayer

As the Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep, may we, too, strive to serve our neighbors. Whether next door, across town, or around the world, may God bless our prayers, our gifts, and our ministries.

In Christ name, we present these gifts. Amen.

* *Closing Hymn* *“They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”*
Mt Hope Insert Greenfield CH #429 Grace Insert

* *Benediction*

May you show boldness before God in all you do.
Following Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, act with kindness,
love, and humility.
Bring comfort to others, acting with love and truth.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*
