

# Gospel John 10 1-10

I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved



*April 26, 2026*

*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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*Sunday Morning Meditation*

*“The Lord is my Shepherd—when I follow His voice, I never walk alone, never lack His care, and never wander beyond His reach.”*

# Welcome

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Mt Hope 8:30am                      Greenfield 9:50am  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter | By the Gate

April 26, 2026  
Grace 11:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

*\* Call to Worship*

*inspired by Psalm 23*

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us enter with thanksgiving and praise!

**The Shepherd restores our souls, satisfies our needs, and leads us on the right path.**

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us live with courage and conviction, not fear and timidity.

**Through valleys and storms, chaos and confusion, threats and concerns, the Shepherd comforts us with power and strength, love and compassion, hope and peace.**

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us worship in the presence of the Holy One!

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives. Let us dwell in God's presence forever!**

*\* Invocation*

God who is Shepherd, Gate, and Way, we join together as a community in your presence and in your protection. Shield us from apathy and isolation. Fortify us against resignation and despair. Nudge us toward justice and righteousness in your name. As we gather to worship you, may we be transformed by your love, strengthened in grace, and rooted in faith for your glory and your kingdom come. Amen.

\* *Opening Hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

*Mt Hope* VH #25

*Greenfield* CH #648

*Grace* VH #25

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life*

**Shepherd of our lives, like sheep, we wander and stray. We come to you for sustenance, yet distance ourselves from your realm when you require more from us. We bite one another with words that cut and attitudes that reflect more apathy than care. We lie down and become stuck when you expand our territory and sphere of belonging. We give you thanks for not giving up on us and continuing to lead us by your Spirit. Give us courage and confidence to do your will and to love with our lives. We devote ourselves anew to your teaching, to community, to the sacramental life, and to prayer. Lead us in the ever full and renewed life in Christ. Amen.**

*Words of Grace*

Beloved, the Shepherd cares for you and rejoices whenever you turn back to follow God's holy way. Life in the promise of glorious, flourishing life and the kingdom of God manifested on earth. There is no detour you may take where the Shepherd cannot find you and urge you back into His loving embrace. You are redeemed and restored in Christ. Receive the goodness of God whose grace is sufficient and available for you to begin anew.

*Psalm Reading*

**Psalm 23 KJV**

*The Lord the Shepherd of His People*

<sup>1</sup> The Lord *is* my shepherd;

I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will 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 runs over.  
<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

\* *The Gospel Reading*

**John 10:1-10 NRSV**

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

**TH #497**

*Jesus the Good Shepherd*

**10** “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Meditation Hymn*

**“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

*Mt Hope* VH #236

*Greenfield* CH #688

*Grace* VH #236

## *Today's Message*

### *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

**Generous God, may these gifts bless our life together, fortify our ministry, and transform our community. Receive them as we give them—with gladness and thanksgiving. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

*“In The Garden”*

*Mt Hope* VH #228

*Greenfield* CH #635

*Grace* VH #228

\* *Benediction*

Beloved, as you go, note the encouragement of the Shepherd:  
The Gate is open and with you.  
In your coming and going,  
The Shepherd leads you.  
Go, have life and have it abundantly.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

**TH # 558**

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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**By the Gate:** Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday in Easter Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.



**GLORIFY GOD**  
AMONG THE NATIONS

**SEEKING HIM**  
IN ALL GENERATIONS  
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB

**THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026**

**75<sup>th</sup>**  
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

**National Day of Prayer  
Prayer Service  
Hosted By  
Claysburg Ministerium**

**Community Service  
Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>  
Prayer Service at  
Claysburg Church of God  
4311 Evergreen Rd  
Claysburg, PA  
7:00 PM**

NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG