

Summer in the Psalms

August 9, 2026 - 10:00 AM

Prelude *We Are the Body of Christ* Brown, Hampton

Welcome and Announcements

*** Gathering Hymn** *Praise the Name of Jesus* TFWs #2066

* Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all who are tired from being driven by fear, scarcity, and endless demand.

People: We come to the Shepherd who restores the soul.

Leader: Come, all who have walked through valleys where death casts its shadow: grief, injustice, violence, loneliness, illness, and despair.

People: We come because God walks there with us.

Leader: The Lord leads us beside still waters, to make us whole enough to love the world again.

People: God restores us for the paths of righteousness.

Leader: The Shepherd leads us in right paths: paths where the weary are not discarded, the poor are not forgotten, the stranger is not feared, and the vulnerable are not left alone.

People: The Lord leads us beyond private comfort into public mercy.

Leader: God prepares a table where dignity is restored, where fear loses its power, where those denied a place are welcomed with honor.

All: The Lord is our Shepherd. We shall not want. We will be restored by grace, and gathered at the table of mercy, let us worship God. Amen.

*** Hymn** *Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* UMH #381

Opening Prayer

Lord, our Shepherd, lead us beside still waters today. Quiet the noise within us. Restore what has grown weary. Make us attentive to your voice and courageous enough to follow. Lead us in paths of righteousness — toward mercy, justice, and peace; toward neighbors who need care; toward tables where all are welcomed with dignity. Walk with us through every valley. Anoint us with your presence. Let your goodness and mercy shape our worship and follow us into the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, Amen.

Children’s Moment

RESPONSE

“Jesus Loves Me”

UM Hymnal #191

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

L: For caregivers who have not slept, who give and give, and wonder if anyone sees

P: Shepherd, restore their souls.

L: For those whose worth has been measured by output, efficiency, or profit

P: Shepherd, restore their souls.

L: For parents stretched beyond measure and elders wondering what their life still has to offer

P: Shepherd, restore their souls.

L: For those walking through the valley of illness, grief, addiction, depression, violence, or fear

P: Shepherd, be near.

L: For the hungry, the unhoused, the exploited, the forgotten, and all who have been denied a place at the table

P: Shepherd, lead us in paths of righteousness.

L: For communities divided by suspicion, hardened by scarcity, or wounded by injustice

P: Shepherd, make us instruments of goodness and mercy.

L: For this church, that we may not offer comfort without courage, or rest without righteousness

P: Shepherd, restore our witness.

All: Good Shepherd, restore our souls. Lead us beside still waters, walk with us through every valley, and teach us to set tables of mercy, dignity, and peace. Amen.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen.

Response

“He Leadeth Me” (refrain)

UMH 128

He leadeth me, he leadeth me
By his own hand he leadeth me,
His faithful follower I would be
For by his hand he leadeth me.

Invitation to Offering

The Shepherd provides—not just for us, but through us. Our offerings join God's work of providing green pastures and still waters for communities in need. Give generously, as those whose cup overflows.

Offertory Music

“Psalm 23”

Stuart Townend

*Response

“Give Thanks”

TFWS #2036

* Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Psalm 23

Sermon

“A House in Us”

Rev. We Chang

*Director of Connectional Ministries
New England Annual Conference*

Holy Communion
UMH pp. 13-14

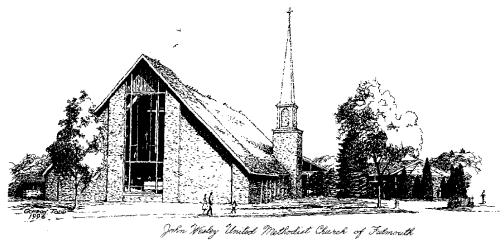
* Hymn

“Love Divine”

UMH #384

* Benediction

* Postlude



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