

Benediction Response

"Go Now in Peace"

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love*

Postlude

"Immortal, Invisible"

Sue Stottlemeyer, Organ

This Week's Participants:

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Lee Ireland
Organist: Sue Stottlemeyer
Lay Reader: Deacon Doris Pulaski
Youth Director: Rachel Measimer
Videographer: Richard Stottlemeyer
Video Editor: Lisa Gorman

The Groton Congregational Choir & Handbell Choir

Announcements:

Women's Fellowship Ham and Potatoes Dinner

**This grab n go dinner will take place on Friday, May 14th. Price is \$15.00/per person.
Menu includes: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans w/ bacon, roll, and dessert.
To reserve your dinners please call or email the office no later than May 9th.**

Zoom Meetings

1- Don't forget about our Zoom Coffee Hour at 11:30am on April 25th.
2- Our weekly Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 5:30pm and Bible Study at 6:30pm
If you are not receiving our weekly Zoom invitations, please email the office.

The Groton Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church

Founded in 1702



April 25, 2021

The Groton Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
April 25, 2021 10am

-We Gather in Community as God's People-

Prelude "Glory Be to Jesus" **Handbell Choir**

Announcements **Deacon, Doris Pulaski**

Call to Worship

Leader: With grace flowing, the poet sings the opening lines of the famous prayer,
"The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want."

People: **We hear the Psalmist's contentment and wonder about our own.**

Leader: Settled on the ground, with grass tickling their toes, the psalmist rests, "God makes me lie down in green pastures. She leads me beside still waters. She restores my soul."

People: **We hear their deep need for rest and wonder about our own.**

Leader: With a deep sigh, the psalmist declares, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me. You prepare a table before me. You anoint me. My cup overflows."

People: **We recognize their bold courage and wonder about our own.**

Leader: Remembering God's faithfulness, the psalmist finds words to carry with them, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long."

People: **We hear their faithful trust and wonder about our own.**

Leader: Holy Spirit of Rest and Renewal, in this time of worship inspire us with words both ancient and new so that we may find the words that connect us to You.

People: **Amen and amen.**

Unison Prayer of Invocation: Great God, to praise you is to acknowledge you and know that you are near and real. We praise you for the gift of life, the gift of your Word and the gift of your presence. We praise you for the glory of spring and the celebrations of this beautiful season. We praise you for our covenant family of faith and the guidance of your Holy Spirit. We praise you as we gather for worship, for singing, and this fellowship. As we are gathered now in our separate homes, gather our hearts, minds, and spirits as one in your Spirit so that we might feel and know your presence. Amen.

Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" CH #517 All verses

-We Express Our Gratitude-

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Prayer of Dedication Loving God, bless these gifts and all the ways in which we give. May each of our gifts be a part of co-creating and tending to the love, safety, belonging, and dignity You envision for the world. **Amen.**

Time With Children **Rachel Measimer**

-We Share Our Concerns With God And Each Other-

Prayer Time in Silence
Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn "Savior Like Shepherd Lead Us" CH #558 All verses

-We Hear God's Words and Guidance For Our Lives-

Hebrew Scripture: **Psalm 23**
New Testament: **1 John 3:16-24** **John 10:11-18**

Sermon: "Laying down our lives" Rev. Lee A. Ireland

Hymn: "Pass It On" CH #477 All Verses

Benediction

As you depart from this place, go with courage, and go with trust that the God who created you is also the One who will sustain you and the One who will show you the way. Until we meet again, may you be filled with curiosity, wonder, and openness to God's tender leading. Amen and amen.