

**Central United Methodist Church  
of Colorado Springs**

*“A Place to Begin...Belong...Become”*

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH  
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**

Rev. Debra Wacker

**Sunday, April 30, 2023, 10:00 am**



**Guardian of the Soul – A Living Hope**

- Prelude** “Majesty” arr. Hayes Jo Jackson
- Welcome** Rev. Deb Wacker
- Church Opportunities** Tori Dudgeon
- \*Hymn of Praise** “To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done!” UMH #98
- \*Call to Worship** (from a Native American interpretation of Psalm 23) Tori Dudgeon
- People:** **I am His and with Him I want not.**  
**Leader:** He throws out to me a rope, and the name of the rope is love and He draws me to where the grass is green
- People:** **and the water is not dangerous, and I eat and lie down and am satisfied.**  
**Leader:** Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down but He lifts me up again and draws me into a good road.
- People:** **His name is WONDERFUL.**  
**Leader:** Some time, it may be very soon, it may be a long, long time, He will draw me into a valley.
- People:** **It is dark there, but I'll be afraid not, for it is between those mountains that the SHEPHERD CHIEF will meet me and the hunger that I have in my heart all through life will be satisfied.**  
**Leader:** Sometimes he makes the love rope into a whip,  
**People:** **but afterwards, He gives a staff to lean upon.**  
**Leader:** He spreads a table before me with all kinds of foods.  
**People:** **He puts His hand upon my head and all the "tired" is gone.**  
**Leader:** My cup he fills till it runs over.  
**People:** **What I tell is true. I lie not.**  
**Leader:** These roads that are "away ahead" will stay with me through this life and after;  
**People:** **and afterwards, I will go to live in the Big Teepee and sit down with the SHEPHERD CHIEF forever. Amen.**

**Children’s Message** Elyse Brunner

**Prayers of the People** Rev. Deb

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Choral Response** Chancel Choir

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** Rev. Deb

**Offertory** “Wonderful Words of Life/Reaper’s Song” arr. Berry Jo Jackson

**\*Doxology** “Alleluia” UMH #186

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** “Precious Lord, Take My Hand “ UMH #474

**Scripture** 1 Peter 2:19-25 Tori Dudgeon

**Leader:** This is a Word of God for the people of God.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** “Guardian of the Soul – A living Hope” Rev. Deb

**Reading of the Psalms** Psalm 23 Tori Dudgeon

**Invitation to Healing** Rev. Deb

**Prayer for Laying on of Hands** (Said from one to the person being prayed for)

**We lay our hands on you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

**May God heal your wounds of isolation so that you may find your home  
in the love of God and the fellowship of the Body of Christ. Amen.**

**Prayer after Laying on of Hands** (Unison)

**Almighty God, We pray that each of us may be comforted in our suffering and made whole. When we are afraid, give us courage to reach toward one another; when we feel weak, grant us the strength to name our vulnerability; when we are afflicted, help us persevere together; when we are lost, show us how to offer one another hope; when we are alone, move us to come alongside one another. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH #381 vs. 1 & 4

**\*Benediction of the People** Rev. Deb

**Choral Response** Chancel Choir

**Postlude** “How Great is Our God with Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Jo Jackson  
arr. Tornquist

(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

\*Stand as you wish

\*Hymn of Praise “To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done! UMH #98

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the lifegate that all may go in.
2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son; but purer and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

*Refrain*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!*

\*Hymn of Preparation: “Precious Lord, Take My Hand “ UMH #474

1. Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
2. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
3. When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone, at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

*Refrain*

*Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

\*Closing Hymn “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH #381 vs. 1 & 4

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care; in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
4. Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will; blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

## WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR

**PRAYERS:** Patsy Williams; John Cox's family, Randy and his wife Mary Antal; Jo Jackson; Linda Groth; Don Bunce's daughter, Sheri Weichers; Carol Zemple; Norm Pechacek; Lillian Bauserman; Trae Gilbert- DeGraffe, Mike Wheat & Our "WAVES," our country and its leaders.

**Serving in mission:** Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa  
Our World: Turkey, Syria, Russia

**PRESENCE:** Sanctuary 58, Fellowship Hall 5, Online 12, Nursery 4 **Total: 79**

<b>GIFTS:</b>	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	March 26 <sup>th</sup>
	\$3,560.00	\$2,708.00	\$5,015.25	\$5,115.00	\$4,259.00

**SERVICE:** Thank you to the volunteers who helped host our IHN guest this week.

---

### CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

**FOOD GIFTS** "National Peanut Butter Month for Central" The pantry is always in need of more peanut butter! CAN YOU HELP? Let's each bring a jar of peanut butter or other non-perishable food items during April. Please bring food to grocery carts in the hallway on any Sunday or weekday during April. Last year we gave 51 jars of peanut butter. Can we top that this year?!

**VBS VOLUNTEERS** We are looking for your help with VBS! VBS this year will be Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am until noon. Please talk with Adrienne Schipfer at 640-6397 or [mschipfer@yahoo.com](mailto:mschipfer@yahoo.com) about how you would like to get involved with this fantastic and fun outreaching mission. You don't need previous experience or any special skills, we provide all the training and information you need, but be prepared to have fun as you help these children grow their faith! Monumental VBS Orientation will be held at CUMC on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm.

**Together we can make a difference in the life of a child in our neighborhood and community.**

### APRIL MISSION FOCUS:

"New Life for Families with Children"

Interfaith Hospitality Network :

As we celebrate new life with nature awakening all around us, we can help provide new hope to families with children by offering them a place to sleep, home-cooked suppers, along with our friendship and encouragement. IHN is a program of Family Promise supported by 30 congregations in Colorado Springs. "Host Congregations" provide hospitality in their facility for one week (2 - 4 weeks per year). "Support Congregations" bring a meal or two during the week to a host facility. Other support congregations contribute financially. Central has been a HOST CONGREGATION since IHN began in 1997! Think how many families we have helped!

Family Promise is blessed to have the volunteers in churches who step up to support families in such a unique, hands-on way. We want to also help financially this month. Your contribution to Family Promise will support the staff and programs that provide each family an opportunity to re-group and move toward financial and personal stability. Can you help? You may write a check to CUMC, designated Family Promise, or drop coins or cash in the little 'house' at the sanctuary entrance on Sundays. Thank you for your gift of New Life for families with children!

**A WONDERFUL WEEK!** Thank you to all who helped host our guest families last week. This evening, volunteers from First Presbyterian Church will begin their hosting week. The four families will continue staying in our church overnight, and the First Pres. volunteers will bring dinner, spend the night, etc. What a great, cooperative way to support the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

**UPPER ROOM** New May – June 2023 are available at the entryway on the literature rack.