

# I Am Yours, O Lord

1 I am yours, O Lord, I have heard your voice, and it  
2 O the pure de-light of a sin-gle hour that be-  
3 Con-se-crate me now to your ho-ly work by the  
4 There are depths of love that I can-not know till I

told your love to me; But I long to rise in the  
fore your throne I spend, When I kneel in prayer, and with  
power of grace di-vine; Let my soul look up with a  
cross the nar-row sea; There are heights of joy that I

*Refrain*  
arms of faith, drawn to you e-ter-nal-ly.  
you, my God, I com-mune as friend with friend! Draw me  
stead-fast hope; let your will be done, not mine.  
may not reach till I rest e-ter-nal-ly.

near-er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to the cross where you have died;  
near-er, near-er

Draw me near-er, near-er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to your pre-cious, bleed-ing side.

April 30, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

## GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Our Good Shepherd calls.

**Congregation: God knows us each by name.**

Pastor: Our Good Shepherd leads.

**Congregation: We are here to listen and to follow.**

Pastor: Our Good Shepherd protects and provides.

**Congregation: We give thanks and praise for our Good Shepherd.**

### HYMN

*I Am Yours, O Lord*

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### CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us indeed draw near to our blessed Lord and confess all that distracts and distorts God's truth. In doing so, we can know grace and forgiveness through our Risen Savior. Let us pray together...

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All:

*Shepherding God,*

*be with us in our need.*

*Like sheep who have gone astray—*

*we have not heeded your voice,*

*calling us to follow the right paths,*

*beckoning us to lie down and be restored;*

*we have acted as if our salvation lies*

*in busyness and control.*

*We do not want to be sheep—*

*dependent on a shepherd for everything.*

*We want to do it alone—*

*to maintain our independence.*

*Forgive us for rejecting your shepherding care*

*and your love and guidance.*

*Forgive us for our need to do it by ourselves,*

*to be separate from the flock.*

*Forgive us for doubting your presence*

*in times of trouble.*

*Forgive us our despair*

*in the face of seemingly unrelenting evil and death.*

*Lead us back to the path of life. Amen.*

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Jesus said: I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly. In confessing, we acknowledge our return to the Good Shepherd, the guardian of our souls who welcomes us with open arms and a glad heart.

Congregation: **We know that God is the Good Shepherd of our lives, who never abandons us. God through Christ is always calling our name, and unfailingly loves and forgives us.**

All: *Alleluia! Amen!*

## PRAISE HYMN

*Gloria Patri*

Hymnal, #493

## A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

## HYMN

*Savior, Like a Shepherd*

Hymnal, #461

## OLD TESTAMENT READING - Judges 13:1-25

## EPISTLE READING – 1 Peter 2:19-25

## GOSPEL READING – John 10:1-10

## SERMON

Rev. Laura C. Baker

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "sins")

*(Based on a prayer of Clement of Rome, a 1st Century bishop)*

All: *Shepherd God, who gathers us for worship and prayer, who sustains us with the breath of life, who quenches our thirst with calm and holy waters, hear our prayers for those in need.*

*Grant relief to the suffering.*

*Have mercy on the oppressed.*

*Heal the sick.*

*Raise up those who have been beaten down.*

*Feed the hungry.*

*Humble the proud.*

*Return the lost.*

*Release the captives.*

*Revive those who are exhausted and weak.*

*Calm the anxious.*

*Comfort those who live in fear.*

*Redeem our violent, warring world.*

*Grant us all peace.*

*Ground us in your good news, O God, and help us hold on to your promises of hope. Keep our feet steady on Christ's path as we seek to be his faithful followers, praying the prayer Jesus taught us, saying: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.*

## OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: God provides for us as a shepherd provides for his or her sheep. Singing the doxology and with an accompanying prayer, let us return a portion of all we have been given in gratitude for God's generosity.

## DOXOLOGY

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

Hymnal, #258

(Verse 1, only)

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: *Generous, life-giving God, you sent Jesus that we might have life and have it abundantly. In response to this great gift, we now offer ourselves and our resources. May these gifts help us as a church to be your voice, calling all people to abundant life and to their true identities as your beloved. Amen.*

## HYMN

*Jesus, I Live to Thee*

Hymnal, #254

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: Disciples of Jesus, you have been given a time of rest. Go now, to proclaim with your lives, in word and deed, the good news of Jesus Christ.

Congregation: **We will follow Savior's lead and be good shepherds to all we meet.**

All: *Alleluia! Amen!*

## POSTLUDE