

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:30AM, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Asterisk (\*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP      Responsive

Beloved, the journey of grace takes us to still waters, the valley of the shadow of death, even to tables surrounded by our enemies.

**We gather to worship God, our Shepherd, who guides us on the journey.**

The journey of grace points us toward the Light so that we may bear the fruit of the Light in all that we do.

**We gather to be formed by grace so that our lives may bear the fruit of all that is good and right and true.**

The journey of grace calls us to pay attention, to discern what is pleasing to God.

**We gather to listen to the Spirit, who empowers us to go from this place to work together to do what is pleasing to God.**

Come, let us worship God who provides, inspires, and empowers us on the journey of grace.

**Come, let us worship God as we journey in grace together! Amen.**

\*HYMN                                      "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"                                      **UMH # 140**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH                                      Apostles' Creed                                      **UMH # 881**

### OPENING PRAYER      Unison

**Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, journey alongside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON      Unison

**O Lord, you are our shepherd, and yet we want. We lie down when we could act, we stir the pot when we could offer peace, we wander tempting paths instead of following you. We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you. We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them, we see scarcity even when you offer us abundance. We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy, so that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: The Lord is our shepherd, and nothing can separate us from His love. God's goodness and mercy pursue us, even when we wander. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and welcomed again to God's table. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Glory to God. Amen.**

### JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

#### SCRIPTURE READING

**Psalm 23 (NRSV)**

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- 3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long

#### MESSAGE

**"The Lord Is My Shepherd"**

**Rev. Dongkue Jee**

## RESPOND TO THE WORD

\* HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" **UMH # 577**

THE LORD'S PRAYER **UMH # 895**

## OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **UMH # 95**

\*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

**Radiant Shepherd, you walk beside us through valleys and over mountaintops, guiding us with grace and guarding us with love. In your presence, we lack nothing that truly matters. Even in a world clouded by shadows, your light shines through—inviting us to live as children of the day. Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our desire to walk in your ways, to live as your people, and to shine with the goodness, justice, and truth that reflect your image. Let our giving be more than ritual; let it be an act of trust, a response to your faithfulness, and a testimony of your light at work in us. In Christ's holy name, we pray, Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" **UMH # 474**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



*Welcome to*

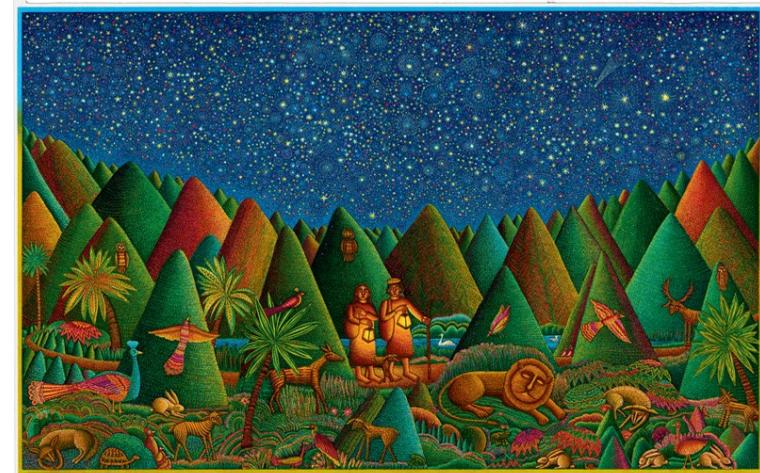
# Mendham United Methodist Church

[www.mendhamumc.org](http://www.mendhamumc.org)

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

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Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026



Psalm 23, 2010, Swanson, John August, Print,  
Los Angeles, CA, United States

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

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\* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

\* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.