

Littleton United Methodist Church
April 25, 2010
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Service of the Word

Prelude *Gymnopedie No. 1* SADIE
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the friendship pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit #304 *Easter People, Raise Your Voices (verse 1 only)* LANCASHIRE

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Witnesses, gather! Embrace the word of the world's salvation!

People: **We have washed our robes; they gleam in the sun. Now we come before the Lord!**

Pastor: Witnesses, gather! Embody the word for the world's salvation!

People: **We shall wipe every tear from the world's eyes, and all shall dwell with the Lord forever!**

Pastor: Salvation belongs to the Lord our God!

People: **Salvation belongs to the Lord!**

+Entrance Hymn #306 *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done* VICTORY

Prayer of the Day

Great God, unknown to us except in fleeting glimpses, we live for the moments when your voice is heard and your will is clear. We long to walk with you beside still waters and to lie down in green pastures. Nourish us now by your Word and Spirit, that we may join the heavenly chorus singing your praises while being of some earthly good to those who cannot hear the joyful sounds. AMEN.

The First Reading *Acts 9:36-43* Gail Workman, Lay Reader

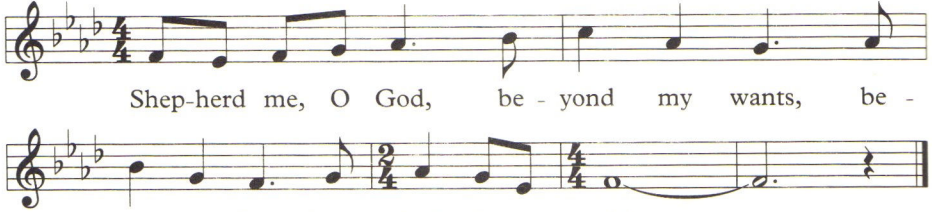
In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha,

get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 23



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life. _____

Choir: God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Refrain

Choir: Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Refrain

Choir: Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Refrain

Choir: You have set me a banquet of love, in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.

Refrain

Choir: You have set me a banquet of love, in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.

Refrain

Choir: Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forever more.

Refrain

The Second Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

The Lord's My Shepherd

JACOB

+Gospel Acclamation #2043 *Alleluia*

+The Holy Gospel

John 10:22-30

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Hands and Voices"

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #138

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA

+The Apostles' Creed

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Prayer of Confession

O God, we look at events around us and cannot perceive you within them. We shed tears and find no comfort. We listen for your voice and are greeted by silence. The world seems full of enemies waiting to devour us. On every hand, there are problems too complicated for us to solve. We live in fear rather than faith. Forgive us for our failures to trust in you. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**
All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory*Per La Gloria D'Adorari*

BONONCINI

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

+The Prayer of Dedication**The Prayers**

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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+Closing Hymn #733*Marching to Zion*

MARCHING TO ZION

+Dismissal with Blessing**+Congregational Response #310***He Lives (refrain only)*

ACKLEY

+Taking God's Light Into The World**+Chiming of the Trinity****+Postlude***Les Plaisirs*

TELEMANN

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 64
Sunday school: 10



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
11:20 Sunday school

Monday: *Newsletter article deadline!*
10:00 AM UMW meeting

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
No Choir Practice

Our Gifts

Offerings 4/11	\$753.00
Offerings 4/18	\$3,382.00



Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.

