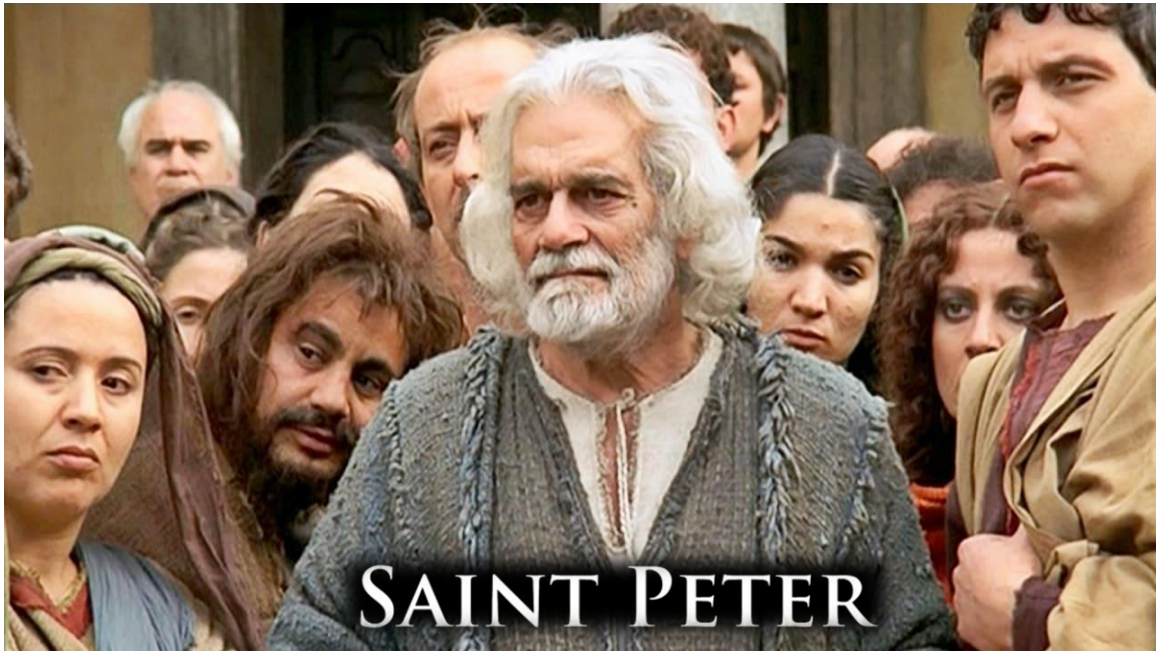


BERN REFORMED UCC - "APRIL 21, 2024"



TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored "In Honor of Wyatt Mauger's Eleventh Birthday".

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are placed by Larry and Linda Benevit in recognition of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

THE SINGLE ALTAR FLOWERS are in recognition of the birthdays' of Carl Herman (91 April 23rd) and Eddy Fisher (80 April 24th).

PRELUDE: "One Flock, One Shepherd" *- Martin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTS: 4:5-12 The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel,

that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 23 (UNISON)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HYMN: "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"

**1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.**

**REFRAIN: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]**

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]**

EPISTLE: 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us--and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL OF JOHN 10:11-18

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away--and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

SERMON: "If I Were Peter?"

CHOIR ANTHEM: "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" -arr. Helvey

SHARED PRAYER MINISTRY

PRAYER: Once, when Peter was on a journey toward Joppa, he went up on a housetop to pray. He fell into a trance & saw the heavens open & something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air.

There came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter responded, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." The voice came again, "What God has made clean, do not call common." This happened three times and then the sheet was taken up at once to heaven. (Acts 10:9-16)

Pastor's Note: *Sometimes the most powerful and influential times of prayer are found in an openness to a message God wishes to communicate to us. We need only vacate our admissions and open our heart and mind to receive God's important message exclusively for us!*

MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #461 "SAVIOR LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US"

- 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:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast bought us Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.**
- 2 We are Thine, do Thou befriend us. Be the guardian of our way.
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us. Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray.**
- 3 Early let us seek Thy favor. Early let us do Thy will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still!**

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Concerto in A Minor"

-Bach/ Vivaldi

Attendance last week 63