

*The United Methodist Church
12 Commerce Street
Clinton, CT*



April 26, 2026

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Please stand in body, and/or spirit

Prelude

Welcome, Acknowledgements of first-time visitors and announcements

Words to Ponder:

Our lives can get so noisy. Calm your spirits, rest your bodies. Listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd who desires the best for you.

Introit

Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the cadence of the Shepherd's voice.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.

We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Great is the Lord"

No. 2022

Opening Prayer

God of all the sheep, those who remain close to you and those who stray, those who are always faithful and those who are lost: be with us today! Help us take a look at our lives and our relationship to you. Bring us close, draw us in, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Patient God, you know how easy it is for us to stray. We wander off so easily. Forgive us, we pray. Heal our brokenness and our fears. Remind us again that you lead us in gentle paths and by quiet waters – when the paths are stony and the waves tumultuous, help us to remember your protection and your care. Help us to extend that same love and care to others, for we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

Brief moment of silent reflection

Words of Assurance

Just when we think we can go no further, Jesus the Good Shepherd calls to us, bringing us safely into the fold of Grace and Mercy. Rejoice! You are loved completely and forgiven!

1st Scripture Readings

Psalm 23 (Old Testament)
Acts 2:42-47 (New Testament)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Children’s Moment

Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

*2nd Scripture Reading

John 10:1-10 (Gospel)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

No. 140

Sermon

“Jesus Shepherds Us”

Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Offertory

*Doxology

#95

*Prayer of Dedication

Thanks, Lord, for all the wonderful gifts with which you have blessed our lives. Take these gifts, these tokens and use them to build your realm, to heal the broken hearted, bind up those who are wounded, welcome the stranger, become the gate of hope for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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.

*Closing Hymn

“Since Jesus Came into My Heart”

No. 2140

Benediction/Going Forth

Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

We have been refreshed and restored. We have been called and guided. Let us go forth knowing who our true shepherd is, following his path, secure in the knowledge that goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our life. Amen.

*Response

“Bless Us Now”

Frank Milnes

Bless us now as we depart, watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen.

Postlude

Flowers today are from Deb Anderson. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:6



Worship Resources

Call to Worship

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

Opening Prayer, Confession, Words of Assurance, Prayer of Dedication

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-04-01_worship_connection_fourth_sunday_of_easter_a/

Benediction

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-04-01_worship_elements_april_30_2023/

SUNDAY, APR 26

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

11:00 Fellowship

Board Game Fun 2-5 pm

MONDAY, APR 27

3:00 Book Club

TUESDAY, APR 28

7:00 Bible Study Online

WEDNESDAY, APR 29

9:30 TOPS

5:00 Community Supper

THURSDAY, APR 30

10:00 Bible Study

7:30 Choir

FRIDAY, MAY 1

5:30 AA meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Spring Clean Up 9-12 pm

April 26th

Ushers: Evelyn and Dennis Scaglione, Sally Maxwell, Charlotte Parisi

Camera Operator: Jill Hale

Video Coordinator: Lisa Sutherland

Worship Leader: Bob Hale

Lectionary scriptures: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23 (UM134/754) 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

Sermon: Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Fellowship Host: Wilda Lohutko

Counters: Jackie Blomberg and Jeane Jarusik

Music/Choir Director: Bob Hale

Organist: Patty Hurlburt

Office Staff

Donna Carpenter-Bronson, 860-669-8396, 9-1 weekdays

Email: office@clintonctumc.org

Financial Secretary: Jackie Blomberg/Treasurer: Carol Bell

Today from 2-5 pm in Fellowship Hall.

