GOOD SHEPHERD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service for the Lord's Day

October 18th, 2020 10:00 am

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Gathering Music

(Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.)

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

In the name of our God who shares divinity with us,
In the name of our God who shares humanity with us,
In the name of our God who unsettles and inspires us…
Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life in the presence of our God.

Lighting of the Candle

We light this candle this morning to celebrate the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to share that love which is ultimately beyond even our cherished reason, that love which unites us.

Prayer of Invocation

God of the past who has fathered and mothered us…we know you are with us. God of the future who is always ahead of us…we trust you are with us. God of the present here in the midst of us…we celebrate and give thanks for the signs of creativity and love that surround us and bless us, past, present and future. Amen.

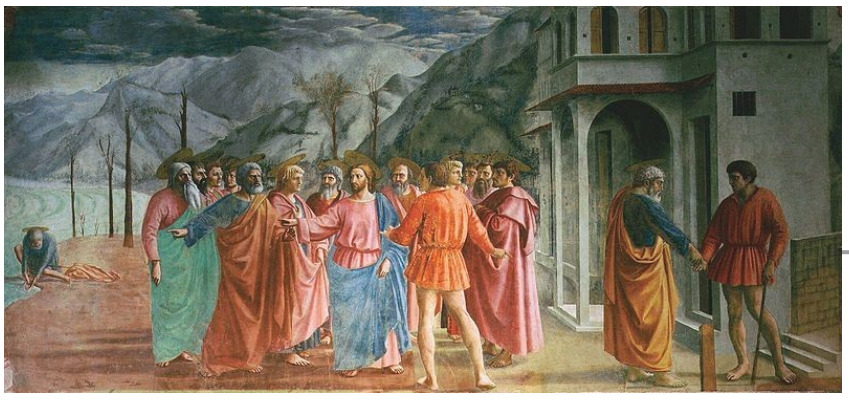
Hymn 401 *Gather Us In* (next page)

Prayer for Illumination

God, I turn into ashes all my preconceptions about this scripture, all my safe, familiar interpretations. Burn me with its newness. Let it rise like the phoenix with bright wide-winged words. Amen

Scripture Reading Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.



(continued)

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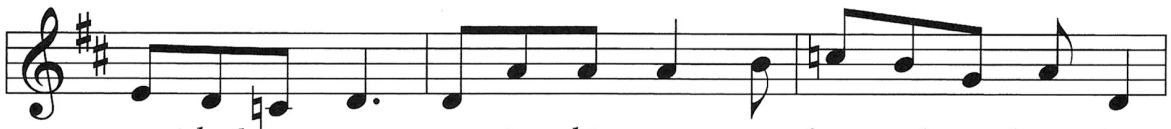
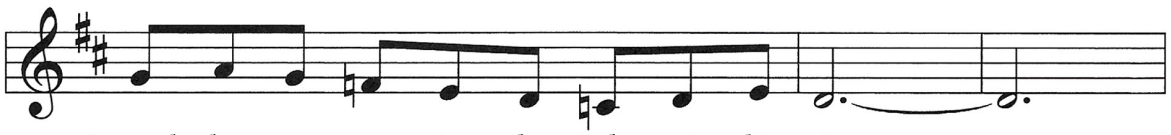
Here in This Place 401

Gather Us In

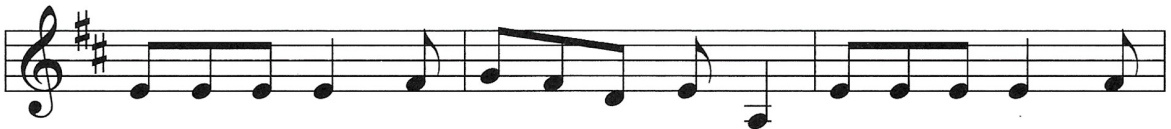
1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



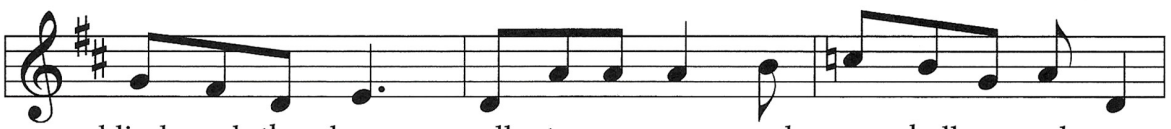
van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



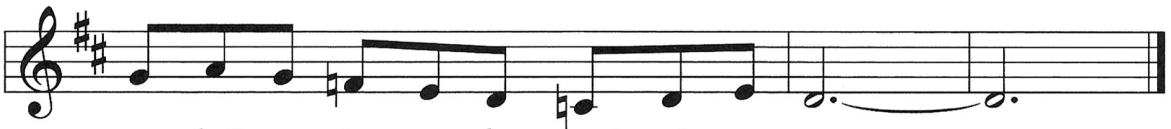
brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

Sermon *Paying Taxes* Rev. Sheri Fry

Special Music *Tremble, O Tremble* by Richard Leach and Alfred V. Fedak

Affirmation of Faith Belhar Confession

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen

Pastoral Prayer

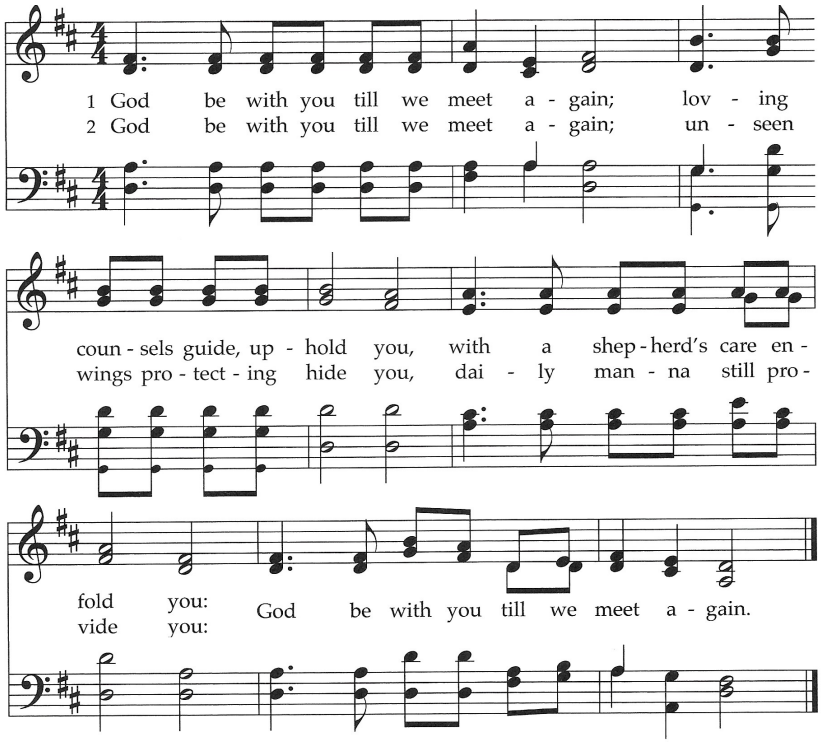
The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn 634 *To God be the Glory* (next pages)

Charge and Benediction

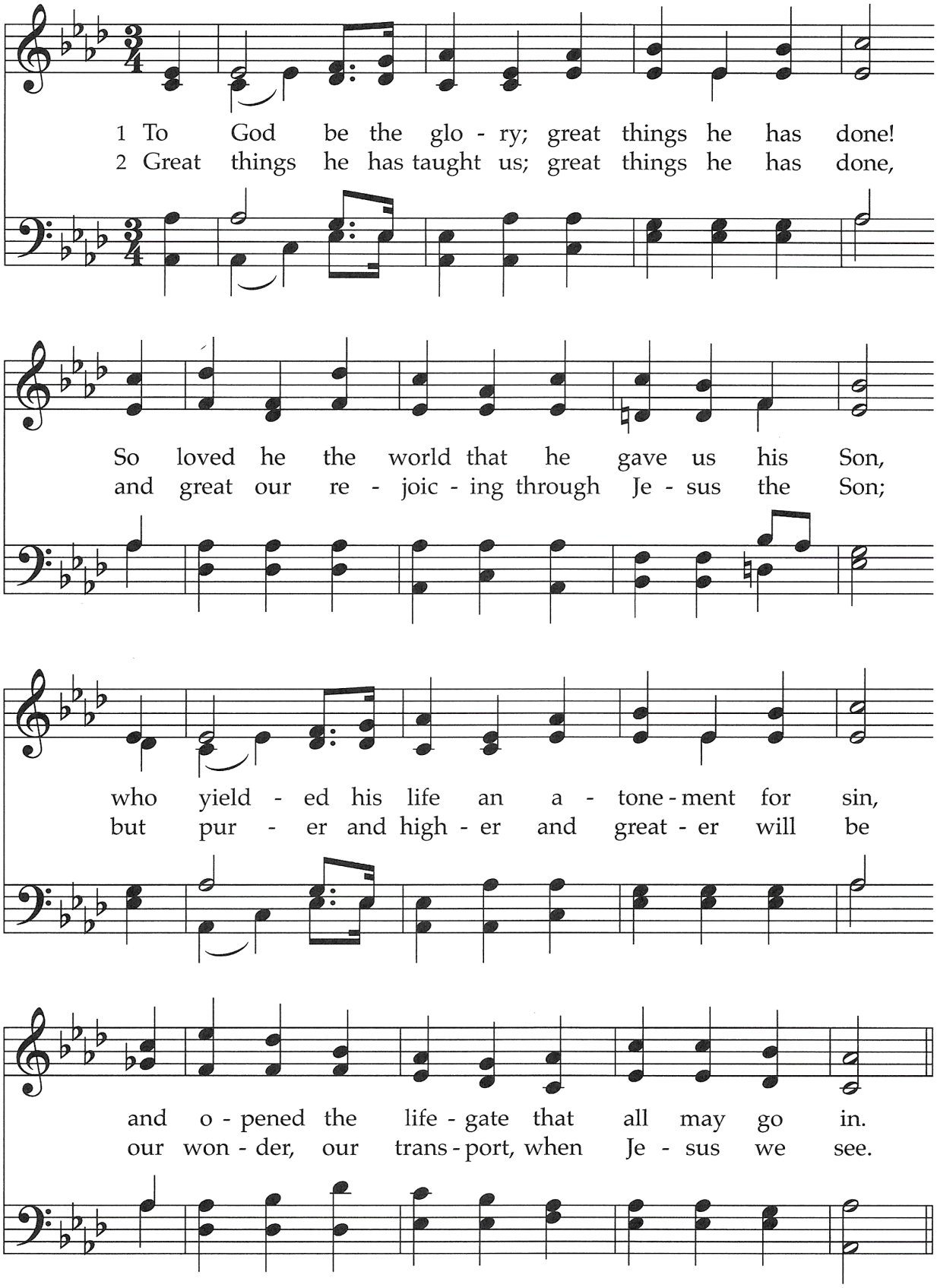
Sung Benediction Unison 542 *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*



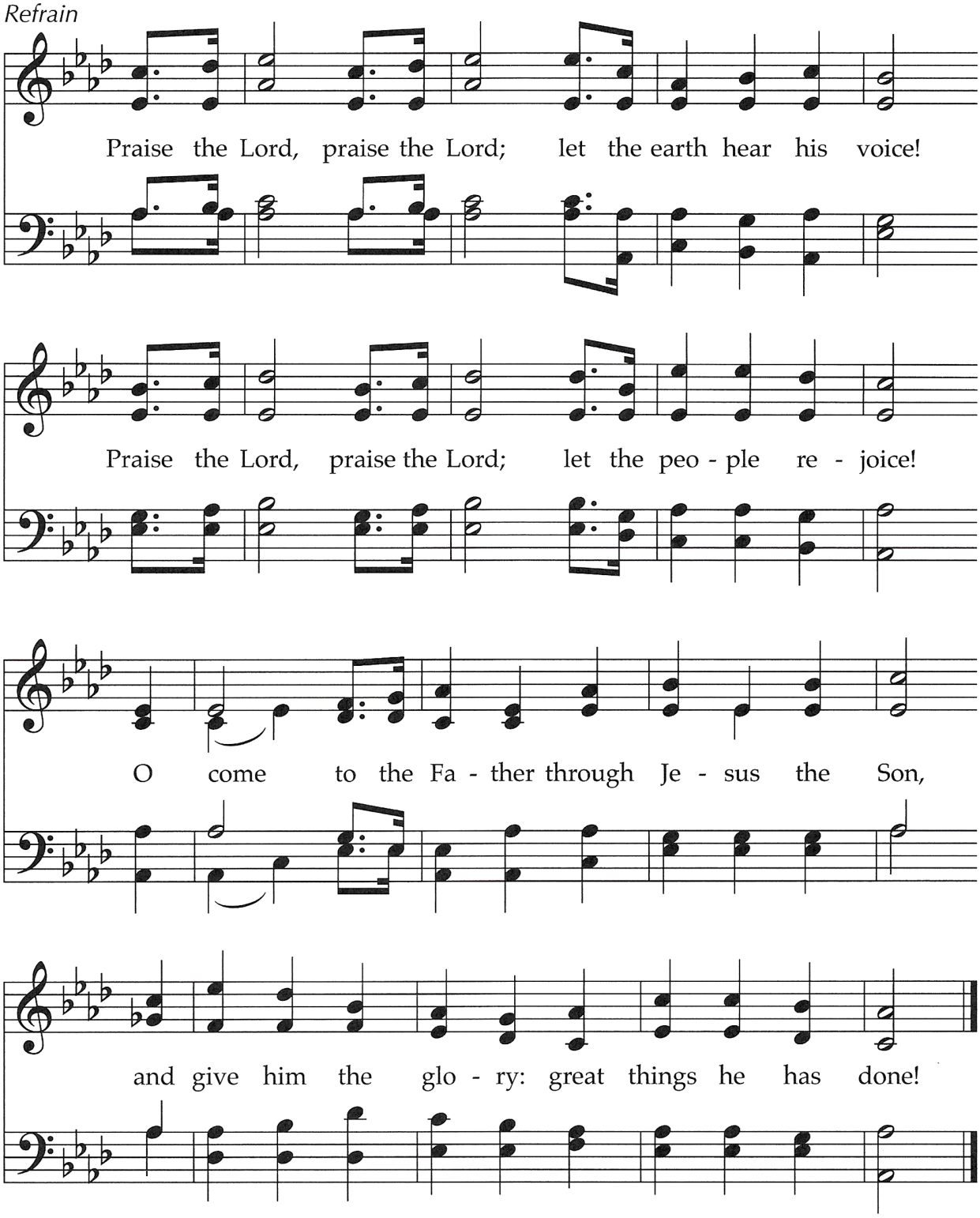
Good Shepherd Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry
Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris

634 To God Be the Glory



Refrain


Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!
O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,
and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

Good Stuff @ Good Shepherd

Dear Good Shepherd Community,

I'm aware there has been confusion over access to Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings, so I'm hoping this will clear up any misunderstanding. I invited a small number of our members that do NOT have access to the Internet to join me at 10:00 to sit appropriately distanced and with their masks on to watch the service. If you do have access to our remote worship, services please watch them in the comfort of your own home.

Coffee, Cupcakes and Conversation is an opportunity for others to come to the church at 11:30 on Sunday, October 18 or November 1 to see the completed construction at the church and to share time together and enjoy some fellowship. *We ask you to contact the church office to sign up for this event so we will not have more than 10 people in Fellowship Hall.* We also ask that you wear a mask and stay appropriately distanced from one another.

If you would like to get together with me on Sunday morning or any other day please contact Teddie or me at office@thegoodshepherd.org or my cell phone 303-475-3883 to set up a meeting.

In addition, to continue to protect our church community and to actively prevent the spread of COVID-19, the church building is accessible for limited use only. We ask when you come into the church that you have your mask on, sign in, take your temperature and if it is over 100 degrees please do not stay in the church. We also ask that you wipe down the areas you touch with the cleaning products provided. We currently would like to have 10 people or less in the Fellowship Hall at the same time. The Food Bank remains open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10:00-12:30 and is following the procedures to remain safe as they assist their clients.

We are following the guidelines of the governor, the mayor and the directives from Tri County Health, the Denver Presbytery and the Good Shepherd Session. We always maintain hope that one-day soon we will begin to add events into the church schedule and that we will be able to meet for worship in person as well as other activities when *it is safe to do so.* We don't know when we will be freed form needing to social distance, wear masks, and avoid large gatherings. And we have little control over it other than our own behavior. What we do have control over is how we use this time. God is at work in every moment of our lives including this one. God can use this time in our lives and in the life of this world to make a difference, to accomplish God's purposes.

We continue to be the church, praying for our world, checking in with you by phone, text or email as well as available to meet for coffee or a meal. We hope you are taking care of yourself during this time. Please do reach out to me, as I will to you.

Peace, Sheri
Rev. Sheri Fry Interim Pastor at Good Shepherd

Sermon Musings

Matthew 22:15-22

This text offers little or no guidance for tax season. It neither claims taxation is legitimate nor gives aid to anti-tax activists. It neither counsels universal acceptance of political authority nor its reverse. But as Marcus Borg wrote, "It does raise the provocative and still relevant question: what belongs to God, and what belongs to Caesar? And what if Caesar is Hitler, or apartheid, or communism, or global capitalism? What is to be the attitude of Christians toward domination systems, whether ancient or modern?"

GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Food Bank

The Food Bank needs donations of pet food, toilet paper, laundry detergent, large-size diapers, macaroni and cheese and holiday food items.

COFFEE, CUPCAKES & CONVERSATION (CREATOR, SON & HOLY ROAST)

ALWAYS THE PERFECT BLEND...

Sign up soon to see Good Shepherd's completed construction, meet Pastor Sheri and spend some masked & sanitized time together on Sunday, October 18 or on November 1 at 11:30 am (not on October 25th).

In order to practice social distancing, we are limiting this to 8 people at a time – Couples will be considered as one space. Please sign up for our next Sunday at 11:30 am by calling or emailing the church.

Joys and Concerns

Please pray for Norm R.'s family on the sudden death of his granddaughter's husband; Bill and Gayle H., Sue H, Barbie S, Tim S's father-in-law, and Michelle W who have health concerns; for communities affected by COVID-19 or by human rights violations here in the United States and throughout the world, and for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.

Judy Mesnard is now in assisted living and misses seeing us. Her address is now 10185 W. 71st Place #1, Arvada, CO 80004-1609. Cards or letters would be most appreciated.