



Sudbury United Methodist Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024

**indicates worshipers may stand in body or spirit*

Welcome

Prelude: “Sheep May Safely Graze”

J. S. Bach

***Call to Worship:** *(written by Sara Lambert)*

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I will fear no darkness.

Many: We will love one another as Christ loves us.

Leader: Christ the good shepherd has compassion for all.

Many: We will love one another as Christ loves us.

Leader: Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today.

Many: We will love one another as Christ loves us.

Leader: Love, not merely in thought and word, but in truth and action.

All: WE WILL LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST LOVES US.

Hymn of Praise: UMH # 128 – “He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

128 He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

1. He lead - eth me: O bless - ed thought! O
 2. Some - times mid scenes of deep - est gloom, some -
 3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor
 4. And when my task on earth is done, when

words with heaven - ly com - fort fraught! What - e'er I do, wher -
 times where E - den's bow - ers bloom, by wa - ters still, o'er
 ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine; con - tent, what - ev - er
 by thy grace the vic - tory's won, e'en death's cold wave I

e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
 trou - bled sea, still 'tis his hand that lead - eth me.
 lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
 will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.

Refrain

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me, by

his own hand he lead - eth me; his faith - ful fol - lower

I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

***Opening Prayer:** *(written by Leigh Goodrich)*

**Shepherding God, you guide us with the rod and staff of compassion.
 When we are lost, you seek us out and help us to find the easier, less rocky paths.
 When our spirits are parched, you find places for us to drink our fill.
 You teach us your ways, that we might live together in grace and good will.
 When we are afraid, you remind us that you are ever present.
 Dearest God, may we always dwell in your pasture,
 in your presence, and in your peace. AMEN.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

***A Reading from the Gospel:** John 10:11-18

This reading can be found on pages 103-104 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles.

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² 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. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay

down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ 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.”

Children’s Time

Special Music: “Psalm 23” Gospel Group (*livestream muted*)

The Kuumba Singers

Reading from the Scripture: Psalm 23

This reading can be found on page 501 in the Old Testament section of the pew Bibles.

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.

Sermon: “Of Sheep and Shepherds”

The Rev. Leigh Goodrich

Hymn: UMH # 314 – “In the Garden”

In the Garden

(I Come to the Garden Alone)

1. I come to the gar-den a-lone while the dew is
 2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the
 3. I'd stay in the gar-den with him though the night a-

still on the ros-es, and the voice I hear fall-ing on my ear,
 birds hush their sing-ing, and the mel-o-dy that he gave to me
 round me be fall-ing, but he bids me go; thru the voice of woe

Refrain

the Son of God dis-clos-es.
 with-in my heart is ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he
 his voice to me is call-ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own; and the

joy we share as we tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

WORDS: C. Austin Miles, 1913 (Jn. 20:11-18)
 MUSIC: C. Austin Miles, 1913; adapt. by Charles H. Webb, 1987

GARDEN
 89.557 with Refrain

Prayer Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(Jesus used the prayer we know as "The Lord's Prayer" to teach us how to pray. The words printed here are from Matthew 6:9-13, however we encourage you to pray this prayer in language you find most comfortable and meaningful.)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Stewardship Moment

Bill Hoke

Offertory Anthem: "The Holy City"

Stephen Adams

***Doxology: UMH # 94-"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offertory Blessing

Hymn of Commitment: UMH # 98 – "To God Be the Glory"

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo-ry, great things he hath done! So loved he the
 2. O per - fect re-demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, to ev-ery be-
 3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our re-

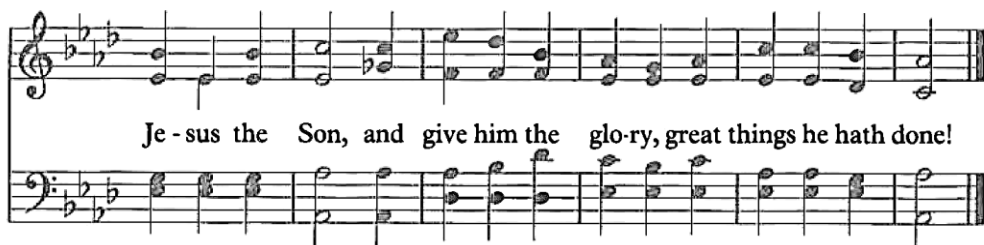
world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom-ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic-ing thru Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high-er, and

tone-ment for sin, and o-pened the life-gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo-ment from Je - sus a par-don re - ceives.
 great-er will be our won-der, our trans-port, when Je - sus we see.

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 thru



Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude: “Unter der Linden grüne”

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

This morning’s liturgist is Donna Watkins.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Libby Dilling in loving memory of her mother, Su Clark and her mother-in-law, Marge Dilling.

(Sudbury United Methodist Church enjoys a vibrant and gifted tradition of worship and praise to our Creator. If you wish to leave worship early, you are welcome to do so in a quiet and reverent manner.)

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Reconciling & Welcoming Statement: The United Methodist Church is a community of believers and seekers, with differences in age, class, nationality, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, abilities, and limitations. We at SUMC recognize that there are attitudes, concerning these diverse characteristics, which violate the integrity of individuals and deny the richness of God's creation. Therefore, we affirm our welcome to all people into our community of faith. We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family, enabling them to grow in their faith, to be fed by our fellowship, and to contribute their talents to the life of the church in its worship, programs, and outreach. We call the church and society to be sensitive to all persons and to advocate programs which attempt to ensure justice for all.

Sudbury United Methodist Church

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Church Staff

Pastor: *Leigh E. Goodrich*

(Pastor Leigh observes sabbath on Friday)

Youth & Children's Ministries Director: *Zachary Moser*

(Pastor Zack observes sabbath on Wednesday)

Music Director/Organist: *Kevin Murphy, AAGO*

Sanctuary Choir Director: *Rob Hammerton*

Business Manager: *Michael Greb*

Sunny Hill Preschool Director: *Kathy Palmer*

Office Administrator: *Shetal Kaye*

Sexton: *Joe Picorelli*

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We are a Reconciling and Welcoming Congregation



If you would like to make a donation to Sudbury United Methodist Church, please use the QR code above.

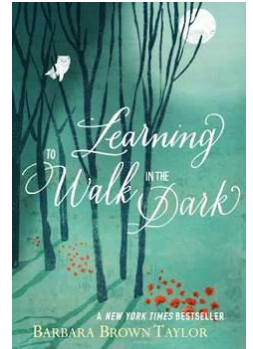
Sudbury United Methodist Church
April 21, 2024

Welcome, Guests!

Whether you are visiting Sudbury UMC's Sunday worship services in our sanctuary or via our live-streamed or video-recorded options, we welcome you! We invite you to celebrate with us the hope God has given the world through Jesus Christ. The nursery above the sanctuary is open for families with children who would like to be able to see and hear the service, while allowing the children to roam and play in a safe kid-friendly room. Enjoy your visit! Please come back as often as you can!

Spirituality Book Study Through May 16, on Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

In *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, Barbara Brown Taylor guides us through a spirituality that teaches us how to find our footing in times of uncertainty, and gives us strength and hope to face all of life's challenging moments. By putting aside our fears and anxieties, we are free to explore all that God has to teach us "in the dark." Through darkness we find courage, we understand the world in new ways, and we feel God's presence around us, guiding us through things seen and unseen. Often, it is while we are in the dark that we grow the most. We started on Thursday, April 11th and we will end on Thursday, May 16th. Please contact either Karen Lubic or John McKinney to get the Zoom link.



Yard Sale on May 18



Mark your calendars - SUMC will host a community yard sale on Saturday, May 18, from 9 am to 3 pm! This is a great chance to keep old items out of the landfill, to serve our neighbors, and to invite people to visit us! We will rent tables for \$25 to crafters or all who wants to sell their own things. We'll also take donations of items that the church can sell. We need volunteers to help - please consider joining in the fun! For more information, please contact Lay Leader Heather Josselyn-Cranson at hjosselyn@hotmail.com.

Discussion Led By Sudbury Police Chief Scott Nix on "Safety Preparedness" Today

Shortly after the service today, Police Chief Nix will lead a discussion in the sanctuary on "Safety Preparedness." Consider staying after church to meet Police Chief Nix and ask any questions that you may have.

Join Our Liturgist Team

Reading scripture at our worship service is one of the many rewarding ways to be involved with SUMC. Liturgists help lead the congregation in prayer, read Scripture, and assist with the distribution of the bread and cup during Holy Communion. Those who enjoy public speaking, and especially reading the gospels, are welcome to join our team of Liturgists. All readings and prayers are supplied to the liturgist making it easy for you to prepare. Your commitment would be only 4-5 Sundays within the year. If you are interested, please reach out to Libby Dilling, libby@dilling.org.



How to Donate Sunday Morning Altar Flowers



The Flower Team welcomes altar flower donations. To choose a date, visit a user-friendly website: [Flower Sign-Up Genius](#). or email Kerry at (healyweeks@gmail.com). Please use the comment section to note if your gift is intended to be in honor or in memory of someone special. And if you have specific flowers in mind, please also share that information in the comment section. Thanks.

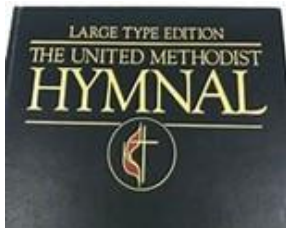
Do you love flowers? Would you like to join the team that creates the beautiful arrangements on the altar each Sunday? Please contact Kerry Healy to let her know of your interest and she'll be happy to fill you in about the process.

Coming to Church? Please Follow Safety Guidelines!

The windows in the sanctuary will remain open for the foreseeable future to improve air flow and enhance public safety. Please do not close the windows during worship. You may want to sit closer to the center aisle if you are cold. We're trying to prevent the spread of viruses and COVID. Please be mindful of the outdoor temperature and dress accordingly. Masks are available if you need one.



Do You Prefer Large Print? Hearing Assistance?



Large print copies of the *Bible*, *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* are available for worshipers who prefer them. They can be found on a pew bench in the narthex. For those who find it difficult to hear, especially with air-circulating equipment in use during our services, easy to use hearing devices can also be helpful. Like transistor radios, they're easy to adjust and safe to wear since the earpiece fits over the ear and not inside. Our ushers will happily assist you.

Coffee Hour Follows Worship

Coffee and conversation follow Sunday worship services. To find Hawes Hall, exit the sanctuary by the door near the pulpit. Climb three steps, turn left and follow the corridor to the aroma of fresh coffee and the sound of fellowship!

Can you help this vital ministry by making coffee on Sunday mornings?

Sherry and Ernie Stonebraker are happy to train those who are willing to join the team. It is a great way to get to know our congregation. To offer your help, contact Sherry at (sstoneb@aol.com).



Sunday Greeters Needed

The Church Growth Commission has resumed our custom of welcoming visitors and members to church each Sunday morning. Cindi Bockweg maintains a Sunday Greeters' calendar. If this is a way you want to contribute to our time together, Cindi would appreciate hearing from you! Her email address is (cindijb@hotmail.com).

Food Pantry Needs

Donations made to the shopping cart near the O'Reilly Room are delivered to the Food Bank in Maynard. Canned tuna, fruit and vegetables are always popular. Pasta, spaghetti sauce in jars, raisins in boxes, dried beans in bags, breadcrumbs, condensed milk, rice pilaf, and instant coffee are also always welcome. Donations may be left at the church's O'Reilly Room entrance any Sunday morning or Monday through Friday during office hours. Thanks for your generosity.



We Live-Stream on SUMC's YouTube Channel and Facebook Page!

Find us each Sunday morning as we live-stream on YouTube and Facebook. **You can click the links below the logos to connect in real time!** The Church Growth Commission invites you to follow us on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter! By reaching out to the community through these social media platforms, the commission hopes to reach a larger audience as we move into the future. Please help our church to grow by following us on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter.



[Facebook](#)



[YouTube](#)



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Upper Room Booklets

Lay and clergy writers who contribute to The Upper Room help laity and clergy readers around the world focus on God's loving presence in daily life. Free booklets are available in a clear rack outside the O'Reilly Room door. Or visit The Upper Room online at <http://devotional.upperroom.org/>.

Five minutes, fifteen, or thirty reading Scripture and sitting quietly in God's presence will set the tone for the whole day.

Ron Smith Memorial Fund



The Ron Smith Memorial Fund award is given each year to remember a beloved member of our congregation. Ron was a member for many years and contributed much to the music program with his very talented trumpet playing.

The Fund was established in 2019 after Ron's passing and is given annually

(1) to a young person to encourage and to help pursue their musical goals.

(2) It can also be awarded to cancer patients and loved one who provide care for them.

The Fund awards a monetary gift in May. Please see Pastor Leigh or a member of the Worship and Music Commission for more information and to apply.

Kidbury UMC

Kidbury UMC is open before and after worship! The theme for the month of April is “Throw Back.” It’s all about Jesus’ teachings, and how, even though the world changes and looks different than it used to, Jesus’ teachings are always meaningful and Jesus’ love for us never changes. It is for all ages (there’s even a toddler table!) and opens at 9:00 am each Sunday. Feel free to come by any time before 9:45 or after worship during Coffee Hour.



Sunday Morning Youth Devo

Each Sunday through June 9, at 9:15 am, youth (grades 6-12) are invited to the youth room (below the sanctuary) for a morning devotion using the *d365* app or website. *d365* <https://d365.org/> is a daily devotion written for youth and adults. The devotion follows a five-step format – Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, Go – and the reading/discussion will usually take 15-20 minutes. The SUMC youth and the Christian Education Commission are thankful for our adult volunteers who will facilitate the morning devotion and discussion, and for the livestream team leaders for their leadership.

Salkehatchie Fundraiser – Save the Date – Dinner and Silent Auction on May 12!

SUMC’s members have been extremely supportive of Salkehatchie, our annual mission trip to South Carolina. We will be returning this summer, and we will have our third dinner and silent auction event on Sunday, May 12. That is Mother’s Day, which makes it a great day to bring mom to see a show (the Connexions Concert), treat her to dinner (southern cuisine), and get her something nice at the auction. How many wins is that? So many wins.



There is another way to support the team *and* low-income families. Between now and early June, the Salkehatchie team will be collecting “soft goods” (clothing, blankets, curtains, etc.) that will be given to Savers at 20 cents/pound. We will give all the items to Savers on Saturday, June 8.

Adult Formation Classes

The Adult Formation Classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:15-9:45 am.

Exploring Topics in Christianity meets in Davison Chapel. During April, we will be exploring the early years of Christianity.

- April 28th - Life as an Early Christian

The Upper Room Group meets each week in the O'Reilly Room. This group opens in prayer, then reflects on a scripture passage or devotional reading provided by individual volunteers from the group.