



Mountainside United Church

3520 Rue University Montreal, Qc, H3A 2A7

Sunday Worship, 10:30 am

Tel: (514) 486-1165 www.mountainsideunited.ca

EASTER IV, Year A

April 26, 2026

Christ the Good Shepherd Sunday

Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice

Territorial Acknowledgement:

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinabeg and Kanien'kehá:ka nations. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous peoples whose presence marks this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

Prelude:

Prelude in G minor, op. 103, no. 3 - Gabriel Fauré

Piano: Alberto Santos

Holy Greeting

The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

And also with you!

Hymn: MV# 41 *O Beautiful Gaia*

Refrain:

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

1.

Soil yielding its harvest,

O Gaia, calling us home.

Soil yielding its harvest,

calling us on. **R**

2.

Waves crashing on granite,

O Gaia, calling us home.
Waves crashing on granite,
calling us on. **R**

3.
Pine bending in windstorm,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Pine bending in windstorm,
calling us on. **R**

4.
Loon nesting in marshland,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Loon nesting in marshland,
calling us on. **R**

Opening Prayer

Gracious and Loving God,
On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we hear the voice of Jesus calling us — knowing us by name,
cherishing us beyond measure, and guiding us to the righteous path.

**We thank you for the voice of the Good Shepherd, who continues to call us out, out of our fears,
out of conformity, out of subjugation, and out of wandering.**

Christ in a world where many feel lost and alone, help us to bear witness to the strength of your voice
in this world.

**Guard our hearts from the thievery of doubt and despair, and lead us to the green pastures of
hope, joy, and compassion.**

May this time of worship renew our trust in your guidance, deepen our love for one another, and
strengthen our resolve to care for all who are vulnerable, just as you care for us.

**We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, who has laid down his life for his
sheep.**

(silence)

God in your love, **Hear our prayer.**
Amen

Hymn: VU#357 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

1. Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear,
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

2. First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
all in the love-light of Jesus' face.

3. Tell me, in accents of wonder, how rolled the sea
tossing the boat in a tempest on Galilee!
And how the Master, ready and kind,
chided the billows and hushed the wind.

4. Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing

loudest hosannas! Jesus is King!

5. Show me that scene in the garden of bitter pain;
and of the cross where my Saviour for me was slain.
Sad ones or bright ones, so that they be
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

@ Early Church History: Acts 2: 42 - 47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the witness of the Early Church.
Thanks be to God!

@Psalm: 23 VU# 747 sung as a hymn

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me,
the quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill;
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Gospel: John 10: 1 - 10

Reader: Joy Pasabing

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to

them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!
Write these words on our hearts, dear God!

Hymn: MV#194 *Bread of Life, Feed My Soul*

1. Bread of life, feed my soul,
as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.
Bread of life, fill my heart
with the grace and mercy you impart.

2. I have heard your voice calling,
"Come, my friend, and share
in the feast that is laid out for you
to show how much I care."

3. Bread of life, help me live
a life as pure and true as Jesus did.
Bread of life, help me see
the boundless love of Christ for you and me.

4. I have heard your voice calling,
"Come, my friend, and share
in the feast that is laid out for you
to show how much I care."

5. Bread of life, feed my soul,
as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.
Bread of life, fill my heart
with the grace and mercy you impart.

Sermon Once Upon a Time or? Rev. Dr. Douglas Throop

Commissioning of the members of The Session of Mountainside United Church

The Members of the Session of Mountainside United Church are asked to stand as they are able.

Chair of the Session: Ethel Ann Flores

Clerk of the Session: Grace Garcia

Vice Chair of the Session: Linda Guignon Mount

Members: Betsy Zukow, Jill Harrison, Elva Crawford, Ester Nuguid Vicente, Raymon Vicente,
Lynne Dawson, Julie Dawson, Maria Santos Dizon

Chair of the Board of Trustees: Philip Johnston

**Minster: Statement of Purpose of the Official Board or its equivalent:
Charge to the Session:**

Session Response: I will, God being my helper.

Presentation to The Community of Faith of the new Session

Music for Spiritual Centering:

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- The Lord's My Shepherd - arr. Lloyd Larson
 - Voices: Mountainside United Church Choir
 - Piano: Alberto Santos

Silent Prayer:

The Prayer of Jesus

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn VU#418 *Go Forth for God*

1. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.
2. Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.
3. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.
4. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

Benediction:

Postlude:

- Arabesque No. 1 - Claude Debussy
 - Piano: Alberto Santos

Reference and Information **for the week of April 26, 2026**

- ❖ April 26. Join us today for Worship, BHC. and you are invited for coffee and conversation after the service on Level 1.
- ❖ May 3. Worship at BHC and join all for coffee after the service on Level 1.
- Please consider giving to the church. Your gift will help serve our local community and far beyond.

For that, we are grateful. You may leave your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you are at home, you can send a cheque, e-Transfer funds, or arrange for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). See details on giving at www.mountainsideunited.ca.

The service is livestreamed on Zoom on Sunday Mornings.

In the event of poor reception, the Service may be viewed later on our YouTube Channel:

Please visit our website for regular updates and more information!www.mountainsideunited.ca