

## Shepherd of the Valley Worship March 29, 2020

Opening Prayer

**O God, who is to us like a loving, faithful father, we open ourselves this day to your care. May your refreshment, your renewal, your forgiveness, your strength, your hope surround those who are gathered here in Jesus' name. Amen.**

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Opening Hymn

**Blest Be the Ties That Bind**

Fawcett (adapted)

**1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.**

**3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.**

**2 We sit here in our homes  
and share our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.**

**5 We live in glorious hope  
when we together stay;  
while each in expectation lives  
and waits to see the day.**

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Scripture Matthew 5:1-9

Homily "Blessed are the Peace Makers"

**Closing Hymn** They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love Scholtes (Adapted)

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
Not too close to each other, But we'll work side by side  
And we'll guard human dignity and each one's life  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

## **Benediction**

**We are not people of fear:**

**we are people of courage.**

**We are not people who protect just our own safety:**

**we are people who protect our neighbors' safety.**

**We are not people of greed:**

**we are people of generosity.**

**We are your people God,**

**giving and loving,**

**wherever we are,**

**whatever it costs**

**For as long as it takes**

**wherever you call us.**

*Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference*