

PRELUDE

O God, our resurrection & life, the promise of your new life in Christ is like a breath of fresh air in a dry & thirsty land. We have gathered as believers, & as those who are honestly seeking the truth. Guide our worship this hour.

O God who makes all things new, speak to us as whole people today. May your truth touch not just our intellects, but also our deeper yearnings of heart & soul. We bring with us our daily concerns, as well as our more eternal questions. May your new creation in us shed light upon our everyday walk.

O God who fed the multitudes with but a few loaves & some fish, feed us now with the abundance of what you freely offer, that we might overflow with your goodness right where we live. All this we pray in the name of, & because of, Jesus our Christ. Amen.

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Opening Hymn Forward Through the Ages by Hosmer and Sullivan

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer "You'll Never Walk Alone"

Performed by a Virtual Choir/Orchestra 15 Countries: 300 People

Song by Rogers and Hammerstein Directed by Harrison Sheckler

Scripture Acts 20:28-38

"What I Love About Shepherd of the Valley and Why"

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

AN ORDER OF FAREWELL

I thank you, the members and friends of Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church, for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.
I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made.
As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

**We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness,
and accept that you now leave to East Longmeadow United
Methodist Church.**

**We express our gratitude for your time among us.
We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.
Your influence on our faith and faithfulness
will not leave with your departure.**

I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you,
trusting that our time together and our parting
are pleasing to God.
I release you from turning to me and depending on me.
I encourage your continuing ministry here
and will pray for you and for your new pastor.

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to
everlasting,
we give you thanks for cherished memories
and commend one another into your care as we move in new
directions.
Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Closing Music

Benediction

May the love of God give you strength and comfort for you journey.

May the teachings of Jesus Christ give you a sense of call and purpose for your life.

May the Holy Spirit give you a passion for peace and for justice,

And may the love of God's people give you laughter, joy and the audacity to believe that life giving love always wins.

May you be blessed and be a blessing. Amen