

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

(* All who are able, please stand

Lenten Service -

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Prelude: "He Leadeth Me" Shelly Nussbaum

*Invocation Prayer: (Unison) Randi Stevens, Liturgist

Lord Jesus, in this season of Lent, as we draw nearer and nearer to the cross, give us courage. Our steps falter as we anticipate following your footsteps on the road to Calvary. Be Bread for our weakness, be Light for our darkness, be the Gate that leads to life, be the Shepherd that leads us through the valleys, and the Resurrection that brings us new life. And now in these moments of worship, surround us and bless us with your matchless grace. Amen.

*Hymn: "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" No. 185

Litany of Confession of Readiness: (Responsively) Rev. Kahler

Let us not set aside the joys and cares of life which are part of us as we travel together. We do not intend to separate our worship from our lives, but rather to bring our lives into acts of worship where the power of God will invite us in for refreshment and renewal on this Journey.

We agree to be who we are before God who already knows us. We shall confess together our needs.

Confession of need: (Unison)

My life has times of joy and strength; I need to be able to rejoice and be thankful for it. My life has times of hurt and frustration; I need to be able to bring those feelings honestly before my family and

my God. My life has times when I am lonely and lost; I need to be able to admit those feelings and face my own lack of response to others My life has times of choosing the wrong, not just by ignorance or accident, but also by rationalization, by stubborn intent; I need to be able to follow the Good Sheperd and return to be forgiven and welcomed.

An Assurance of Pardon: (Responsively)

Be at peace with God, for God does not deal with us according to our sins, but according to great love. Be at peace with yourself and with others, for what God grants to us in the open arms of love is available to us in our acceptance of self and one another.

We may be at peace, for Jesus said, “My peace I leave with you always.” Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and he calls us to welcome all people of the world.

Special Music: “What Wondrous Love Is This” Heavenly Ringers

Scripture Lesson: John 10: 11-18 Rev. Kahler
Bible Pg. 933

Dialogue: “Jesus says, "I AM The Good Shepherd”
Jay Carter/Rev. Kahler

Prayer of Commitment: Rev. Kahler

The Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father in heaven hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn: "Shepherd Of Love" No. 464

*The Benediction:

Postlude: "My Savior's Love"

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Offering plates are located at the back of the center aisle and by the East door and you are welcome to make a donation as you are led by the Holy Spirit.

We greet all members, visitors, and guests to our worship service this evening. Visitors are asked to please take a few moments to sign the Friendship Folder located in each pew and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you to our chefs for the meal this evening, as well as those who provided music and assisted in the service.

We welcome Jay Carter with us tonight. Jay is a longtime friend and colleague of Rev. Kahler, and we welcome him tonight as we talk about the Good Sheperd. Jay was the pastor of Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren until his retirement last year. He and his wife Angie have been a part of Adams County for many years.