

Worship Service ~ *A Nation of Shepherds*

Easter 2, Year A,

12th April, 2026

Psalm 23 / Genesis 47

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is Jonny Finlayson It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with me, if you're able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship

One: Christ died for all, in order that they who are alive may live no longer for themselves but for him who died for them and rose again.

All: Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

One: If then any are in Christ, they are a new creation; the former things have passed away: behold, they are made new.

All: Thanks be to God, who has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Invocation

Our Good and Gracious Shepherd, we huddle for warmth as you keep us by the fire of your Word. We feed ourselves with the nourishing riches only you provide. We experience the unexpected turns in the road you call us to walk.

But in all this, Lord Jesus, we trust that you are fully committed to our good, and to the good of the world; for the glory of God, through the Holy Spirit. We would have no Shepherd but you. So come again and lead us in worship. Amen.

Opening Hymn *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* ~ 65

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 23

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 paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will 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 forever.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up?

Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by pastor

Hymn

In Christ There is No East or West ~ 306

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Genesis 47

1 So Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, "My father and my brothers, with their flocks and herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of Canaan. They are now in the land of Goshen." 2 And from among his brothers he took five men and presented them to Pharaoh. 3 Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" And they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, as our fathers were."

4 They said to Pharaoh, "We have come to sojourn in the land, for there is no pasture for your servants' flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. And now, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen." 5 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Your father and your brothers have come to you. 6 The land of Egypt is before you. Settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land. Let them settle in the land of Goshen, and if you know any able men among them, put them in charge of my livestock."

7 Then Joseph brought in Jacob his father and stood him before Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. 8 And Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many are the days of the years of your life?" 9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my sojourning are 130 years. Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning." 10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from the presence of Pharaoh. 11 Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. 12 And Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their dependents.

13 Now there was no food in all the land, for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished by reason of the famine. 14 And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, in exchange for the grain that they bought. And Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. 15 And when the money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone." 16 And Joseph answered, "Give your livestock, and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock, if your money is gone." 17 So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys. He supplied them with food in exchange for all their livestock that year. 18 And when that year was ended, they came to him the following year and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord that our money is all spent. The herds of livestock are my lord's. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our land. 19 Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for food, and we with our land will be servants to Pharaoh. And give us seed that we may live and not die, and that the land may not be desolate."

20 So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for all the Egyptians sold their fields, because the famine was severe on them. The land became Pharaoh's. **21** As for the people, he made servants of them from one end of Egypt to the other.

22 Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land.

23 Then Joseph said to the people, "Behold, I have this day bought you and your land for Pharaoh. Now here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. **24** And at the harvests you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households, and as food for your little ones." **25** And they said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be servants to Pharaoh." **26** So Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, and it stands to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth; the land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's.

27 Thus Israel settled in the land of Egypt, in the land of Goshen. And they gained possessions in it, and were fruitful and multiplied greatly. **28** And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years. So the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were 147 years.

29 And when the time drew near that Israel must die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "If now I have found favor in your sight, put your hand under my thigh and promise to deal kindly and truly with me. Do not bury me in Egypt, **30** but let me lie with my fathers. Carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burying place." He answered, "I will do as you have said." **31** And he said, "Swear to me"; and he swore to him. Then Israel bowed himself upon the head of his bed.

Sermon ~ A Nation of Shepherds

Rev. Jonny Finlayson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us ~ 355*

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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