

**Sunday, April 26, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.**  
**NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY**

**Today's Focus:** Today we honor First Peoples, and our relationship with them and with the God we share.

**PRELUDE** — Scott Anderson

**SPECIAL READING** — Rev. Lin Cheek

*by Tecumseh, Shawnee (Shawnee Tribe's ancestors were originally from the Eastern Woodlands)*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** — Lin

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** — Lin

**\*OPENING HYMN**                      UMH #138      "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (vs 1, 2, 3, 6)

1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

2. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth;  
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me;  
And on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

6. And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** — Kermit Welty

*(Native American version of Psalm 23, from [www.firstpeople.us](http://www.firstpeople.us). Used by permission.)*

One: The Great Father above a Shepherd Chief is.

**Many: I am His and with Him I want not.**

One: He throws out to me a rope,

**Many: and the name of that rope is love.**

One: He draws me to where the grass is green and the water is not dangerous,

**Many: and I eat and lie down, and am satisfied.**

One: Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down,

**Many: but He lifts me up again and draws me into a good road.**

**ALL: His name is Wonderful.**

One: Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be a long, long time,

**Many: He will draw me into a valley.**

One: It is dark there, but I'll be afraid not, for it is between those mountains that the Shepherd Chief will meet me,

**Many: and the hunger that I have in my heart all through life will be satisfied.**

One: Sometimes He makes the love rope into a whip,

**Many: but afterwards He gives a staff to lean upon.**

One: He spreads a table before me with all kinds of foods.

**Many: He put His hand upon my head and all the "tired" is gone.**

**ALL: My cup He fills till it runs over.**

One: What I tell is true. I lie not. These roads that are "away ahead" will stay with me through this life and after;

**ALL: And afterwards I will go to live in the Big Teepee and sit down with Shepherd Chief forever.**

#### **OPENING PRAYER — Lin**

*Traditional Native American prayer, from the UMC Hymnal #329.*

#### **SPECIAL MUSIC — Rinn Choir**

"Siyahamba (We Are Marching)"

#### **HYMN**

TFWS #2233 "Where Children Belong"

#### **CHILDREN'S STORY — Lin**

#### **SCRIPTURE: Luke 13:29 — Kermit Welty**

<sup>29</sup> Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

#### **MESSAGE**

Guest Speaker Komi-Ana Casica

#### **RESPONSIVE HYMN**

UMH #147

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

**REFRAIN:** All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. **REFRAIN**

2. The purple-headed mountains, the river running by,  
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. **REFRAIN**

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one. **REFRAIN**

4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. **REFRAIN**

**OFFERTORY** — Brendan Krueger

**\*DOXOLOGY**                      UMH #94

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** — Kermit Welty

**ALL: God of all people, as part of our worship of you, we give back to you a portion of what you have already given us, asking you to bless all we give, and all we are, to the building up of your kingdom on earth. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER** — Lin

**All: 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, forever. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**                      UMH #577      "God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;  
Crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;

Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;  
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

**\*BENEDICTION** — Lin

*Cherokee Prayer Blessing — the Cherokee were originally from the Great Lakes regions, but were "relocated" to the Southeastern portion of the United States.*

**POSTLUDE** — Brendan Krueger

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Prelude/Postlude—Scott Anderson/Brendan Krueger  
Offertory— Brendan Krueger  
Organ — Betsy Foushee  
Liturgist — Kermit Welty  
Special Music: Rinn Choir, directed by Rhonda Ritter

Accomp.— Brendan Krueger  
Song Leader — Shelly Anderson  
Violin — Rae Ann Norell  
Children's Message — Lin