

# *First United Methodist Church of Elgin*

April 25, 2021

## **Prelude**

**Dr. Mindy Pugh**

**“Exultate Deo”**

*V. Williams*

## **Welcome**

**Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy**

## **Announcements**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

## **Call to Worship**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

Though the way seems long and the road rough.

*Yet we will trust the One who leads us.*

Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome.

*Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care.*

It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls.

*It is Christ who gives us hope and peace. Praise be to Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **Opening Hymn**

**“Blessed Be Your Name”**

*Worship & Song #3002*

**Matthew Weber, accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

Patient and loving God, we stand at the gate and peer through. We keep creating our own ways, believing that we know what is in our own best interest, and we ignore your voice. We are so preoccupied with counting sheep that we forget how much we need a shepherd. We are so preoccupied with numbers and statistics that we forget to leave the counting to you. You already know the sum of the hairs on the very heads that you have anointed. You know our days, our challenges, our successes and our needs.

*Today, we confess that our greatest need is for a shepherd. And the lesson we have yet to learn is how to listen and how to be your sheep.*

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## **Words of Assurance**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

Even though we have not listened and have wandered and have become lost, the shepherd calls to us. We can place our trust in his loving care. For we are the sheep of his pasture, blessed and given hope. Amen.

## **Offertory**

**Dr. Mindy Pugh**

**“Just As I Am”**

*E. Broughton*

## **Scripture Reading**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

**Acts 4:1-12 (MSG)**

**4** <sup>1-4</sup> While Peter and John were addressing the people, the priests, the chief of the Temple police, and some Sadducees came up, indignant that these upstart apostles were instructing the people and proclaiming that the resurrection from the dead had taken place in Jesus. They arrested them and threw them in jail until morning, for by now it was late in the evening. But many of those who listened had already believed the Message—in round numbers about five thousand!

<sup>5-7</sup> The next day a meeting was called in Jerusalem. The rulers, religious leaders, religion scholars, Annas the Chief Priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander—everybody who was anybody was there. They stood Peter and John in the middle of the room and grilled them: “Who put you in charge here? What business do you have doing this?”

<sup>8-12</sup> With that, Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, let loose: “Rulers and leaders of the people, if we have been brought to trial today for helping a sick man, put under investigation regarding this healing, I’ll be completely frank with you—we have nothing to hide. By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the One you killed on a cross, the One God raised from the dead, by means of his name this man stands before you healthy and whole. Jesus is ‘the stone you masons threw out, which is now the cornerstone.’ Salvation comes no other way; no other name has been or will be given to us by which we can be saved, only this one.”

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Joys and Concerns/Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

Meditation

**“O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”**

*S. Trevor Francis*

Matthew Weber, accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh

Video

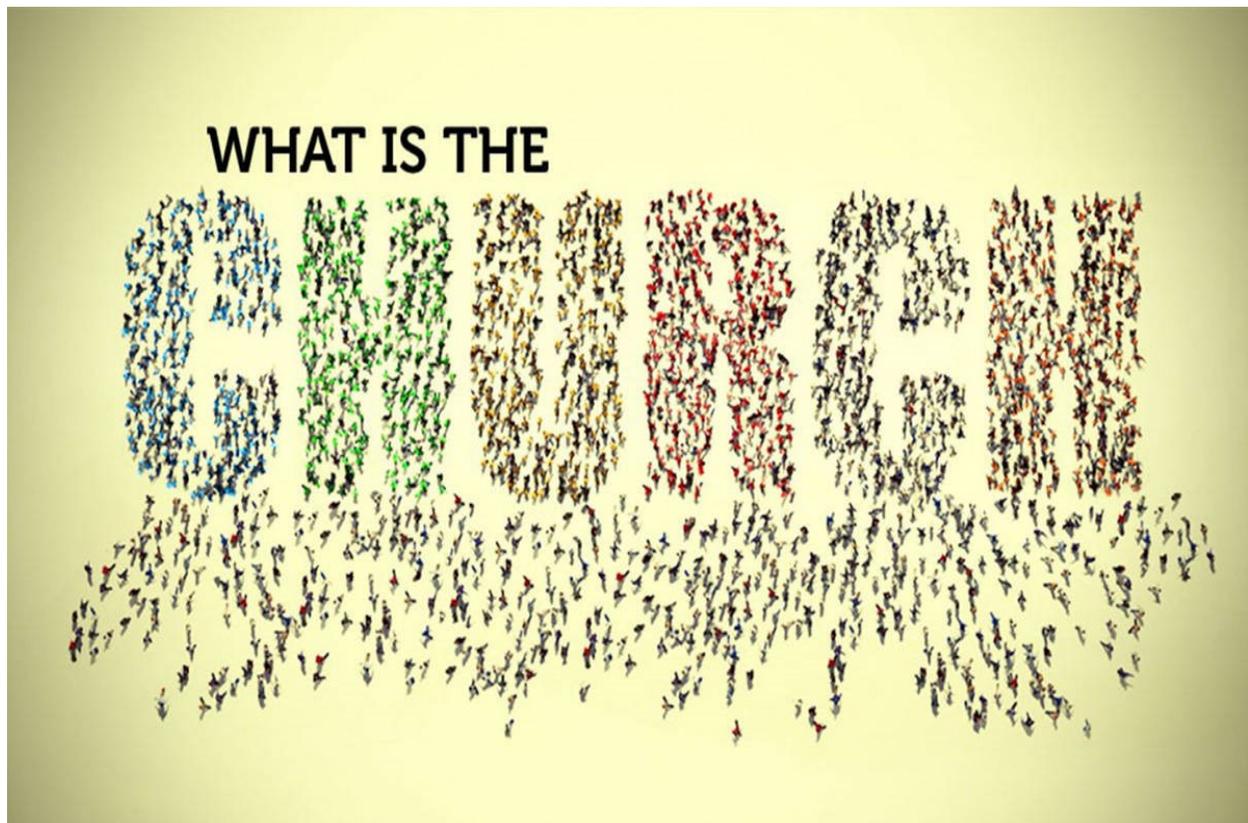
**“Let Me Show You”**

*UMC Discipleship Ministries*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

*Sermon Series: Living Into God’s Vision*  
*Purpose: What is the Church?*



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## **Closing Hymn**

**“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

*United Methodist Hymnal #139*

Matthew Weber, accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh

## **Benediction**

**Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy**

## **Response**

**“As We Go”**

*Worship & Song #3183*

Matthew Weber, accompanied by Dr. Mindy Pugh

## **Postlude**

**"March of the Noble"**

*F. Keats*

**Dr. Mindy Pugh**

**Ways to Give:**

[fumcelgin.org/give](http://fumcelgin.org/give)

[paypal.me/fumcelgin](https://paypal.me/fumcelgin)

ACH (contact church office to arrange)

Mail to church office—216 E. Highland Ave., Elgin IL, 60120

