

He is Risen! Welcome to Easter worship. Death cannot stop the good news—it is alive and unbound in the world. May we celebrate it here and carry it into the lives of neighbors and strangers.

This worship service can be watched live on YouTube, as it happens, anywhere you have an internet connection. Additionally, past services will be archived so you can stay up-to-date or relive your favorite Sunday morning moments. You can find the link on our website or check it out at <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>

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Ushers: Bruce Luff, Janie Slamon
Deacon Greeter: Eleanor DePhillips
Fellowship: Easter Breakfast

Communion: Tim Bagnull, Elaine Smits
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NOTE: Sheet music for the hymns can be found on the next page or pages.



Order of Worship
April 5, 2026

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Did You Know?

You can support the mission and ministry of our church by donating online at <https://bit.ly/39QO3dQ>. You can scan this QR code, which will take you directly to the donate page on our website. We deeply appreciate your generosity and are so thankful for each of you!

**THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
EASTER**

10:00 AM

APRIL 5, 2026



THE FIRST NOTE OF THE PRELUDE begins our worship.

Please use the prelude to center yourself in God's presence. We invite you to continue in fellowship after worship.

** Those who are able are invited to stand.*

FOCUSING UPON GOD'S PRESENCE AND VOICE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

All: On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

All: But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

One: The good news is dancing!

All: The good news is on the loose!

One: The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

All: Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

One: Let us worship our good-news Christ.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

LITANY OF AFFIRMATION

One: Friends, on Easter Sunday, we remember that the world did its worst to God. The world battered and bruised, betrayed and abandoned, crucified, and buried our living God. And despite it all, Jesus still chose to return. Jesus rose again and immediately went to work spreading God's love to the very people who had hurt him. So hear me when I say, there is NOTHING you can do that could keep God's love at bay. With that good news in mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us. Friends, let us pray.

All: Gracious God, we want to be an Easter people. We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid. And we don't know where to look. And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.

So, forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias." We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in the world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

One: Family of Faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias," we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing - NOTHING - that could keep God's love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration.

All: Through Jesus Christ, we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share our forgiven joy with one another.

*HYMN OF ASSURANCE #581 *"Gloria Patri"*

THE WORD OF GOD TO THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

PSALM 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

² Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

³ Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him; bless his name.

⁵ For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever

and his faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

³ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your^[a] life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him, the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he^[a] lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead,^[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

MESSAGE

“The Good News is Alive in the World”

254 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone
 2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the
 3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -

out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which
 deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 made it plain their Lord in - deed was risen a - gain.
 us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide.

These Eastertide stanzas are derived from a longer Latin text that was one of the earliest hymns written especially for a season of the church year. They are set here to a tune with Christmas associations, a means of linking the two great festivals of the Christian year.

