

Stewardship 2026 Join the Journey

*"Trust in God from the bottom of your heart;
don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in everything you do,
everywhere you go." Proverbs 3:4-6*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

9:15 AM Worship Express

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Michele Bolstad

Lector: Greta Hanson

Acolyte: Greta Hanson

Ushers: Jason & Darla Estervig

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and in our everyday lives.

CALL TO WORSHIP

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM:

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that

nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING SONG: “Jesus in the Morning”

**Vs. 1: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus at the noontime,
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.**

Vs. 2: Love him

Vs. 3: Serve him

Vs. 5: Praise him

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE: “Oh, How I Love Jesus” Vss. 1 & 2

**Vs. 1: There is a name I love to hear,
I love to sing its worth;
It sounds like music in my ear,
The sweetest name on earth.**

**Refrain: Oh, how I love Jesus (3 times)
Because He first loved me.**

**Vs. 2: It tells me of a Savior's love,
Who died to set me free;
It tells me of his precious blood,
the sinner's perfect plea. Refrain...**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOSPEL SONG: "He Is Lord"

**He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead, and He is Lord!
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.**

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 20th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

Narrator: ¹⁹⁻²⁰ Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said,

Jesus (All): Peace to you.

Narrator: Then he showed them his hands and side.²⁰⁻²¹ The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were awestruck. Jesus repeated his greeting:

Jesus (All): Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you.

Narrator: ²²⁻²³ Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them.

Jesus (All): Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive someone's sins, they're

gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?

Narrator: ²⁴⁻²⁵ But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master." But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said,

Jesus (All): Peace to you.

Narrator: ²⁷ Then he focused his attention on Thomas.

Jesus (All): Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don't be unbelieving. Believe.

Narrator: ²⁸ Thomas said, "My Master! My God!" ²⁹ Jesus said,

Jesus (All): So, you believe because you've seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing.

Narrator: ³⁰⁻³¹ Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than are written down in this book. These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and in the act of believing, have real and eternal life in the way he personally revealed it.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDRENS WORD/WORD

Stand

SONG OF THE WORD: "Oh, Sing to the Lord" #822 ELW Vss. 1,2 & 5

Vs. 1: Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song. (3 x)

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Vs. 2: For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders, (3 x)

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Vs. 5: For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia (3 x)

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus, God's Son?

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried; he descended to the dead. On the
third day he rose again; he ascended into
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God's Holy Spirit?

All: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence

P: Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING SONG: "Lord, be Glorified"

**Vs 1: In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be gloried today.**

**Vs. 2: In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my song, Lord, be glorified today.**

**Vs. 3: In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 and ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE