

Grace Presbyterian Church

April 26, 2026

9:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

WELCOME AND VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

Our vision is to be a community of love and purpose,
**each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**



Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 30)

We praise You, O God, for You have saved us!

We cried out to You for help, and You were there.

We were sinking down,

burdened by the weight of our sin and fear,

but You lifted us up, and restored us to life.

So we praise You! We give You thanks!

Together, we remember the stories

of Your mercy and love.

For Your anger lasts only a moment,

but Your goodness for a lifetime.

God, You are our God.

We will give You thanks forever!

*Hymn #246 "Christ is Alive"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Wondrous God,

We confess that at times our doubts and fears

override our hope and faith.

Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your

love and instead fall into despair and gloom.

**Lift up our spirits, Lord,
help us to remember the promise of new life here
and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the
future.**

**We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ,
who continues to offer us new life,
who continues to turn us around and upside down,
who continues to break down the walls we build to
protect us from transformation.
Forgive us, restore us and renew us.
In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ,
we pray. Amen.**

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

The tomb is empty. The stone is rolled away.

There is no darkness now, only light.

God continues to renew us and restore us.

**We are forgiven, loved and restored, receiving the
gift and promise of new life and resurrection now.**

Go and share the wondrous news of God's love in Jesus
the Christ. Amen.

— written by Rev. Mindi, and posted on her Rev-o-lution blog.

Hymn #750 "Goodness is Stronger than Evil"

(please stay seated and sing 2X)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, dwell with us.

Open the scriptures to us, to make us wise.

Tell us the good news of resurrection,

and set our hearts on fire with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

submitted by Rev. Nathan Williams (he/him),
Covenant Presbyterian Church, West Des Moines, IA

Reading from the Gospel of John 10:1-10

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of John 21:15-25

SERMON

We Respond

*Hymn #489 "Wonders of Wonders, Here Revealed"

Sacrament of Baptism (see insert)

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

**Lord God, you provide for your people's needs
far beyond what we can imagine.
Bless this offering we make in your name
as a portion of our whole-hearted devotion.
Send your Spirit upon those who will guide its use
for the healing of this world you love.
We pray in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Submitted by Rev. Nathan Williams,
Covenant Presbyterian Church, West Des Moines, IA

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and
ministry of our church in offering plates during worship)

and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)

Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving,

Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

We Are Sent

*Hymn #242 "Day Of Delight and Beauty Unbounded"

*Charge and Benediction

Go forth with renewed hope,

We go trusting the transforming love of God.

God does not leave things as they are;

With God, all things are made new.

All creation responds to God's presence;

The world is alive with possibility.

We open ourselves to this truth;

With Christ, we trust our whole lives to this power.

Nothing is beyond the reach of God;

**Neither evil, nor hardship, nor death
can separate us from the love of God.**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

— Jeanyne Slettom, from Process and Faith,
an affiliated program of the Claremont School of Theology.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

****Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.***

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