

University Presbyterian Church



Sunday, April 12, 2026
10:30 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Easter, April 12, 2026
Service for the Lord's Day
10:30 a.m.

AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Also, please do not bring any food or beverage, other than water, in the sanctuary. Thank you.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents. If you would like more info about Sunday School please see one of the deacons, someone handing out bulletins.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in "Prayers of the People," please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed.

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Rhosymedre

R. Vaughan Williams

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship[†]

Great is the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***Prayer of the Day[‡]**

God of signs and wonders, you have revealed to us that Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior. Strengthen our faith, that we may live life in Christ's name.

Amen.

*Hymn #239

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Melchior Vulpius

Gelobt sei Gott

THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession†

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Let us confess our sin before God and one another, trusting in God's gracious promise of forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

Prayer of Confession†

Eternal God, your Word teaches us that whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. Forgive us for forgetting your gracious promise of life. We live in fear, thinking death has the final say. We follow our own ways rather than your life-giving path in Jesus Christ. Help us put our trust in you, our God who has the power of life over death. We believe, Lord; help our unbelief. In the name of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead never to die again, we pray. (Time for Silent Prayer) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon†

The Scriptures teach: "If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
We confess that Jesus is Lord and we believe and celebrate the good news that God raised him from the dead.

Trust in this promise: In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

*Hymn #581

Glory Be to the Father

Henry W. Greatorex

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Sharing the Peace and Greetings

As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ to one another saying, "the peace of Christ be with you."

*Sung response Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination†

Almighty God, we know that all Scripture is inspired by you and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to you may be proficient, equipped for every good work. As we hear the good news this Easter season, may we come to believe more and more that Jesus is the Messiah, your Son and that through believing we may have life in his name. **Amen**

Responsive Reading Psalm 16:1-11

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD,
“You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

First Scripture Reading Acts 2:14a: 22-32 (NT p. 119)

Second Scripture Reading John 20:19-31 (NT p.115)

Anthem All Hail the Power

Children's Sermon

Sermon Sent in Peace

*Hymn #236 The Strife Is O'er William Henry Monk
Victory

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Voluntary Pastorale Louis Lefébure-Wely

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn #817

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Samuel McFarland

Dunlap's Creek

*Benediction

Postlude

Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König der Ehren

Max Reger

*Please stand or rise in spirit as you are able and feel so led.

† Liturgy written by Philip K. Gladden and provided for free distribution for © Presbyterian Outlook, 2026.

‡ Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion.

One License #: A-723910

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director

Gregory White, Organist

Lee Ann Grace, Liturgist

Grace Agbemenu, Scott Horton & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

Amy Erickson, Sunday School Leader

Next Week:

Howard Henry, Liturgist

Val Macer, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

Amy Erickson, Sunday School Leader

Jude Hammer, Sunday School Assistant

This Week...

Sunday, April 12	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:45 am	Adult Ed
Tuesday, April 14	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	2:30 pm	Zoom Ministry to Community
Thursday, April 16	10:00 am	Property
	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	1:00 pm	Technology Committee
Sunday, April 19	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:30 am	Adult Ed

Eastertide Bible Study / Discussion: Today and the next 2 Sundays (19, & 26) join John McClester in UPC's Adult Education hour (11:45 - 12:45) for a discussion-focused Bible Study on contemporary Christian Practice. Our method will be to read the short play, "Ezekiel's Wheel" - yes, you will need to read the play prior to our first meeting! Our discussion will commence with examining the biblical themes and passages which inform, inspire, confuse, and disappoint the characters in "Ezekiel's Wheel."

2026 Member Directories are available from the church office.

University Presbyterian Church's Vision Statement

Let us be **BREAD:**

Beaming Christ's love to our neighbors and beyond

Resounding praise of God in worship with music while caring for one another and growing our faith

Enriching our neighborhood through creative use of our building

Acting with energy to foster a growing, vibrant, and welcoming church family

Developing diversity by engaging and welcoming all of God's beloved people

University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Christine James
Organist	Gregory White
Choral Director	Rebecca Kroetsch
Treasurer	James W. Smyton
Clerk of Session	Pat Cookfair-Casseri
Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator	Kathryn F. Hallborg
Administrative Assistant	Peg Kovach
Facilities Manager	Aaron Vivian
Custodian	Roll Tomosso

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Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>