



**WESLEY**  
**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*Weems, Virginia*

**“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”**

Matthew 28:19 NIV

**April 26, 2026**

*The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

**Hymn #45 Crown Him with Many Crowns** (1<sup>st</sup> verse)

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: We have been through much, but the Lord has been with us, and so we find peace and give thanks.

**All: The Lord is our shepherd; we have everything we need.**

Leader: Through shadow and light, through death and birth, through grief and joy, we have never been alone. We rest in that truth.

**All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Opening Prayer**

God our Shepherd, you are our safe place, our shelter, our ground, our breath. We turn to you in hope and trust, knowing we have come this far by faith, and you will guide us all the way. Mold our daily patterns for your purposes so that we may live as one heart and mind with you and our neighbors, rejoicing together and praising your holy name, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**Hymn #563 Open My Eyes That I May See**

**Prayer of Confession**

God of community, you call us to a world radically different from what we are used to. You ask us to lay aside our ideas of “mine” and “yours.” You show us a life where goods are shared, where all are loved, and faithfulness is shown through generosity. But we cling to our possessions, trusting them more than we trust you. Forgive us, merciful God. Help us to truly believe in your just and peaceful realm and to work to make it so. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

## **Gloria Patri**

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.

## **Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Pastoral Prayer 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 and ever. Amen.

## **Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

### **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Great God, to you we give our thanks; your steadfast love endures forever.  
With gratitude we bring our gifts to you. Bless us and our gifts, that our lives and our resources may be a source of healing and hope, of joy and justice in our world. In Jesus' Holy name we pray. Amen.

## **Hymn #435 God of Grace and God of Glory**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Children's Sermon**

### **Scripture Reading:**

Jonah 2: 8-10  
Colossians 3:12-15  
Psalm 100

## **Sermon: Celebrate with Gratitude**

## **Hymn #143 This Is My Father's World**

### **Benediction**

**Sending Song:** May the Lord, Mighty God Bless and keep you forever;  
Grant you peace, perfect peace Courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see his face Full of grace forever;  
May the Lord, Mighty God Bless and keep you forever.