



April 26, 2026
4th Sunday of Easter
10:00 a.m.

Gathering those who fear they are not enough,
so we may experience grace, wholeness, and renewal as God's beloved.

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

arr. David Cherwien (b. 1957)

RINGING OF THE BELL & INTROIT

The Lord is Alive!

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

*The Lord is alive! Sing together with praise! The Lord is alive, Join in song all our days!
He rose from the dead as our glorious King! He rose from the dead, Let all people now sing!*

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,

ALL: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

ONE: Whether we are longtimers or latecomers in the life of faith,

ALL: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

ONE: Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,

ALL: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. We praise God's name forever and ever!

*** GATHERING HYMN 619**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

CALL TO CONFESSION

Myra Bridgforth

ONE: We live fractured lives, and God seeks not to punish us for those faults and fault lines, but to reconcile and restore us. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us then make our confession together.

** Please rise in body or spirit*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want your grace for ourselves but often wish punishment or exclusion on others. We judge the efforts and motives of others while ignoring the faults of our own. Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us. Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity. Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you. We ask for your mercy. We ask you help us to be more merciful toward one another. We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

Personal Prayer in Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Cali Bronkema

ONE: God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving, grace beyond our ability to earn it. Therefore, let us live as grateful and forgiven people.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

* SING GLORY TO GOD 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008
MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

* PASSING THE PEACE

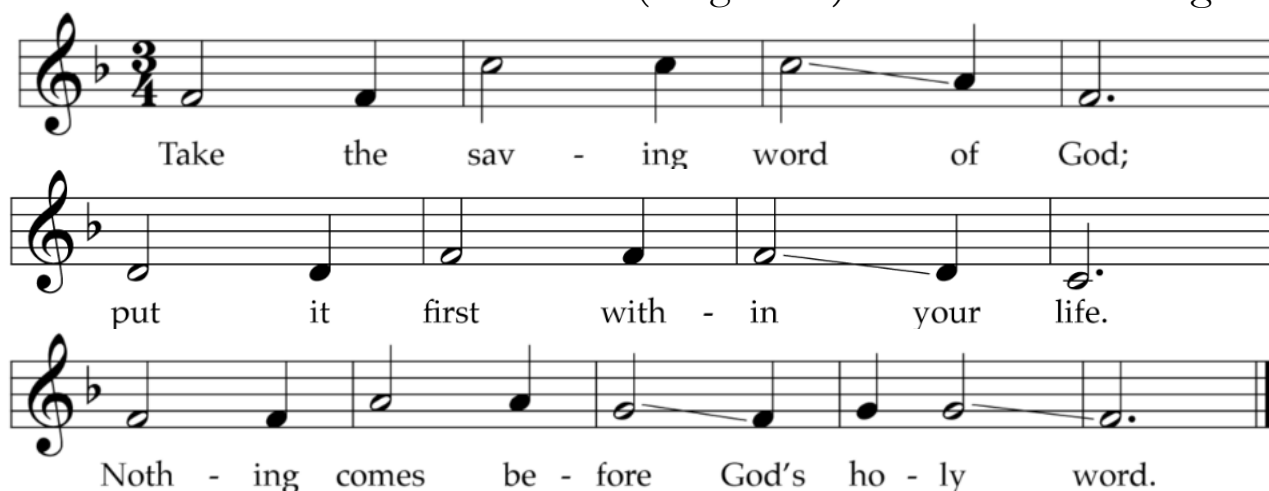
Cali Bronkema

ONE: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 454 (sung twice) *Take the Saving Word of God*



Take the sav - ing word of God;
put it first with - in your life.
Noth - ing comes be - fore God's ho - ly word.

TEXT: Pawltay (Kiowa); English vers. John Thornburg, 2008
MUSIC: Kiowa melody; transcr. Carlton R. Young, 2008

DAWK'YAH TOWGYAH
7.7.9

English Vers. and Transcr. © 2008 General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 23

Myra Bridgforth

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

Megan Klose

Children ages 3 and up are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in Room 204.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Cali Bronkema

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Beyond the Happy Ending

Cali Bronkema

We Respond to God's Word

*** SERMON HYMN 442**

Just as I Am, without One Plea

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

ALL: **In life and in death we belong to God.**

ONE: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

ALL: **We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

ONE: The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls all people to all ministries of the church.

ALL: In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage...

ONE: ...to pray without ceasing, to witness among all people to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives.

ALL: With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Myra Bridgforth

ONE: Lord in your mercy,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder who is currently serving or has previously served on Session. Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors Yena and Megan at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org.

Please keep in your prayers:

Chet De Long, following a stroke on April 21

Gordon Storr, on the death of his cousin, Shirley Reid-Storr, on March 17

Ongoing prayer concerns:

FCPC members: Avery Burns, Winnie Harris-Zoellner, Ruth Mileham, Ken Waugh; *Relatives and friends:* Carolyn Armstrong, Scott Armstrong's mother; Lisa Bales, Pete Kelly's sister; Bill Bickel, Janet Bickel's husband; Ansley McCraw, Shawn Sledge's niece

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.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Please support the mission and ministry of the church with your financial contributions. Offerings can be placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church office, given online through our secure giving portal (fpc.breezechms.com/give/online), texted to give at 7037751355, or scanned using the QR code.



OFFERTORY

Arise and Come to Jesus

arr. Patti Drennan

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r.*

*Refrain: Arise and come to Jesus; He'll embrace you in His arms;
in the arms of our dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. [Refrain]*

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.*

*Blessed are the eyes that see Him, blest are ears that hear His voice;
blessed are the souls that trust Him and in Him alone rejoice. [Refrain]*

* DOXOLOGY 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Megan Klose

Generous God, you come to us again and again, calling to us, gathering us in. You give us your good work to do, your bread and grace to give boundlessly. Increase in us a generous spirit so that we may do your work with joy alongside others whom you also love. Accept, we pray, our thanksgivings and offerings that they may become green pastures and still waters for any and all who need your comfort and restoration. Amen.

We Are Sent into the World

*** SENDING HYMN 475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Cali Bronkema

*** CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Risen

G.F. Handel

Risen! Risen! Christ is risen! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Now the Green Blade Rises

arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader	Myra Bridgforth
Ushers	David Murray, Shelly Skomra
Audio/Video	Mark Armstrong
Sexton	Jen Root
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Ethel Leslie in loving memory of her dad, James Leslie.

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. Please sign the red welcome pad which can be found at the end of the pew, then pass the pad along to your neighbor. There are nametag boards outside of the sanctuary side entrance. Please make a nametag and wear it as a sign of hospitality.

Large-print bulletins are available at the sanctuary entrances. Portable electronic hearing devices are available in the narthex.

A recording of today's service can be found at www.fallschurchpresby.org/sermon.

If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, talk to one of the pastors or email Pastor Yena (yhwang@fallschurchpresby.org) or Pastor Megan (mklose@fallschurchpresby.org). Please visit our website for more information.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in our services. The Kids' Corner at the front right side of the Sanctuary is where children and their grownups can play, read, or color quietly while in worship. The Cozy Corner along the right wall of the sanctuary has sensory toys and headphones. Children up to age 4: Child care is offered in Room 201 by paid nursery staff. Children age 3 and up: Godly Play is offered in Room 204 following Senses of Scripture.

Fellowship Hour + Card Ministry Sunday

Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship to greet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments. Hosted by the Community Building Ministry Team. Please stop by the Card Ministry table to write a note to someone who's celebrating a birthday or needs a word of encouragement or prayer. Cards and stamps provided.

Be sure to sign up for *Fellowship Tables* during fellowship hour today. There are options for small groups who will gather informally for a meal and fellowship.

Announcements

Nourish our Neighbors. Drop off your donations for Knox Food Pantry today. If you forgot, you still have time. Pick up an empty grocery bag after worship, fill it with most-needed items (see QR code on bag), and return it next Sunday.

Queerly Gathered workshop, April 26. Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for a workshop led by Queerly Gathered, "Moving from Welcoming to Affirming: An LGBTQ+ Allyship Training." This two-hour training session will focus on how to be better neighbors and allies to our LGBTQ+ siblings.

Share the Feast Potluck + Tinner Hill/Civil Rights History Walk, May 3. Community Building Ministry, in conjunction with the Justice Ministry Team, will host a Share the Feast potluck following worship on May 3. During the potluck we'll hear from local leaders of the Tinner Hill Foundation about The Tinner Hill Historic Site and local civil rights history. After lunch, everyone is invited to experience a guided walk to the local Tinner Hill Historic and Cultural District to learn more about our local civil rights history. Questions? Contact Mary Soule.

Thank you to all who prepared Monday night dinners for guests at the Falls Church Homeless Shelter this winter. FCPC has supported the shelter in this manner for more than two decades. Volunteers delivered a hot meal for 14 guests each Monday for 20 weeks (some of those trips were in the snow!). Thanks again for your help with this caring ministry. Your efforts helped keep people warm and safe during one of the most severe winters in recent years.

Service of Sacred Music, Sunday, May 10. Join us for a special morning of worship enriched by a vibrant offering of sacred music, featuring choir, soloists, a professional string quartet, and singers from the U.S. Army Chorus. The service will include *Missa Brevis in G* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, alongside beloved works by Bach and Dvořák, hymnody, and congregational singing—all thoughtfully woven into the liturgy. Invite a friend and join us on May 10.

Calendar

Sunday, April 26 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Nourish Our Neighbors – Drop off donations for Knox Food Pantry

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online

Card Ministry Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Queerly Gathered Workshop, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Youth Group, 6:00 p.m., Mini Golf (meet at FCPC)

Monday, April 27 – Prayer & Pose Yoga, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Loft

Tuesday, April 28 – Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:30 a.m., Zoom

Wednesday, April 29 – *No scheduled events*

Thursday, April 30 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room

Friday, May 1 – *No scheduled events*

Saturday, May 2 – Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Parlor

Silent Witness for Racial Justice, noon, Broad Street in front of FCPC

Doug Ammons Memorial Service, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday, May 3 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

Worship Service (Communion Sunday), 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online

Share the Feast & Civil Rights Talk and Walk, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Children's Playdate, 11:30 a.m., Frady Park

Youth Group Game Night, 6:00 p.m., Third Floor

Falls Church Presbyterian belongs to the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, “working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a still more just and inclusive church.”

Falls Church Presbyterian is also a Matthew 25 church seeking to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty.

The Rev. Yena Hwang, Pastor; The Rev. Megan Klose, Associate Pastor

Cali Bronkema, Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music; Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

225 East Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046 | 703-532-6518 | www.fallschurchpresby.org