



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 26, 2026 11:00 AM

As a courtesy to
others, please
silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE

The Goodness of God
(Maicy Powell, soloist)

Jenn Johnson

from Psalm 139

CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Largo

Lord, you search us and know us.

You are with us in the day and in the night.

You are with us when we are strong and when we are weak.

You are with us always.

Praise the Lord!

*HYMN 246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

* Please rise in body
or in spirit.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord,
we need your help.
We confess our lack of faith and faithfulness.
Too often, we give in to fear, anxiety, and exhaustion
because we forget your promised presence.
We try to build your kingdom by our own strength
instead of resting in your constant companionship.
Forgive us, Lord.
Help us to go forth not in our own confidence,
but in the assurance that you are always with us.

(a moment for silent reflection)

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

*SONG OF JOY 805 (vv. 1 & 4)

Come Sing to God

ELLACOMBE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Come sing to God, O living saints;
sing praises to God's name.
God's anger is not permanent;
God's love will never wane.
Though tears may tarry for the night
with sighs of deepest pain,
yet joy comes with the morning sun,
a peace that is not vain. | 4 You change my grief to joy-filled dance;
my sorrows you destroy.
In faithfulness you hear my cry
and fill my life with joy.
And so to you my heart shall sing;
my voice your goodness raise.
You are my God, forevermore.
My life shall sing your praise. |
|--|--|

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

text from Zephaniah
3:14-17 and
Psalm 34:2-4

ANTHEM

And The Father Will Dance
(The Chancel Choir)

Mark Hayes

Refrain:

And the Father will dance over you in joy!
He will take delight in whom He loves.
Is that a choir I hear, singing the praises of God?
No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song!
And He will joy over you in song.

My soul will make its boast in God,
For He has answered all my cries,
His faithfulness in me is as sure as the dawn
of a new day.

Awake my soul! Awake, my soul, and sing!
Let my spirit rejoice in God!

Sing, O daughter of Zion, with all of your heart!
Cast away fear for you have been restored!
Put on the garment of praise as on a festival day.
Join with the Father in glorious, jubilant song!

And He will joy over you in song;
And He will joy over you in song.
And the Father will dance over you in joy!
He will take delight in whom He loves.
Is that a choir I hear, singing the praises of God?
No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song!

God rejoices over you in song!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:16-20

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Always

Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Steve Largo

**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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

The Peace of Wild Things
(Maicy Powell & The Chancel Choir)

Music: Steven Phillips
Text: Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

from A Brief
Statement of Faith,
1983

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Steve Largo

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples 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.
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.**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 250**

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

PROMISE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see. | 3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see. |
| 2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see. | |

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory

arr. Paul Manz

The postlude
concludes our
worship today. It's
the custom of this
congregation to sit
and enter into this
moment with
gratitude and
celebration.



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