

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

FOURTH SUNDAY of RESURRECTION

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so happy to have you join us for this Service of the Lord's Day. We acknowledge this Sunday as the Fourth Sunday of Resurrection.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 100*) [NKJV]

One: Make a joyful shout to the Lord, [all you lands!]

All: Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

One: Know that the Lord, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

All: Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

One: For the Lord *is* good;

All: His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations.

***OPENING HYMN** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" GtG 39

1. **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

(continued...)

2. **Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

Refrain:

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

3. **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

Refrain

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William Marion Runyan, 1923

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CALL TO CONFESSION

One: The proof of God's amazing Love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Merciful God, in Your Presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your Ways, in wasting Your Gifts, in forgetting Your Love.

(continued...)

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease You. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in Your Light, and walk in Your Ways, for the sake of the [Risen], Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Psalm 23:5) [NKJV]*

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen

THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

(From your seat, a brief sign of peace may be shared: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, etc.)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept Your Word. Silence in us any voice but Your Own, that, hearing, we may also obey Your Will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT: Ezekiel 34:7-15 *(NKJV)*

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10 *(NKJV)*

PRAYER FOR SERMON

*One: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer."
(Psalm 19:14, NKJV)*

SERMON “What's Love Got to Do with It?!” by Rev. Paula Cooper

***HYMN** “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” GtG 803

**1. My shepherd will supply my need;
the Lord God is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed,
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.**

**2. When I walk through the shades of death
your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows;
your oil anoints my head.**

**3. The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest,
but like a child at home.**

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. Public Domain

*Music: RESIGNATION, U.S.A. folk melody; Lewis's Beauties of
Harmony, 1828. Public Domain*

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles Creed” (Contemporary)**

One: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell;
On the third day, He rose again;
He ascended into Heaven,
He is seated at the Right Hand of the Father;
and He will come again to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***THE LORD’S PRAYER (Contemporary)**

**Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Your Name,
Your Kingdom come,
Your Will be done,
on earth as is in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

(continued...)

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the Power
and the Glory are Yours,
Now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Invitation

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it (Malachi 3:10 NKJV)"

Reflection

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Lord, use these offerings and us for the building -up of Your Kingdom here on Earth.

***CLOSING HYMN "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" GtG 353**

- 1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand;**

- 2. When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil**

Refrain

(continued...)

3. **His oath, his covenant,
his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.**

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand;**

4. **When he shall come with trumpet sounds,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne**

Refrain

Words: Edward Mote, c. 1834. alt.;
Music: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, alt.
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

***Standing if able.**

Call to Worship: Psalm 100; NKJV.

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Assurance of Pardon; Psalm 23:5 NKJV

The Peace; and Prayer for Illumination are used by permission from Book of Common Worship, © 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.

Offering Invitation: Malachi 3:10 NKJV.