

**April 27, 2025; 9:00 am**  
Second Sunday of Easter

## **We Gather Together**

***Welcome** to today's Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on zoom, watching on our YouTube channel, or listening on KFIZ, we are glad you are here. For those in person, please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. We extend a special welcome to our visitors, and if you have not already received your welcome gift, please pick one up as you leave the sanctuary after worship.*

**Prelude: "Madrid"**

*arr. by Gordon Young*

**Welcome & Announcements**

*Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin*

**Ringing of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ**

**\*Call to Worship (Psalm 150)**

*Wendy P., liturgist*

Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy house of worship,  
praise him under the open skies;

**Praise him for his acts of power,  
praise him for his magnificent greatness;**

Praise with a blast on the trumpet,  
praise by strumming soft strings;

**Praise him with castanets and dance,  
praise him with banjo and flute;**

Praise him with cymbals and a big bass drum,  
praise him with fiddles and mandolin.

**Let every living, breathing creature praise God!  
Hallelujah!**

**\* Opening Prayer**

God of Easter surprises, on this first day the week we are drawn together by the power of your Holy Spirit expecting to encounter your son, the crucified and risen Lord Jesus. Breathe into our being your Spirit of mercy, preparing us to forgive one another and experience a life of uninhibited service and praise. **Amen.**

**\*Sung Response: GTG 267 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”**

*Henry H. and Todd H., cantors*

**\*Call to Confession**

*Wendy P.*

When we keep our faults and failures locked safely away, we have no need to confess. But God comes into our hearts when we least expect, so we can be filled with forgiveness, with hope, with peace. Let us confess our sins.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

*Wendy P.*

**God of empty tombs and emptier people: when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us a voice. When we find it difficult to love one another, forgive us, and give us fresh compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and seat us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with your joy.**

*Silent Confession*

*(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)*

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven....” -- *John 20:21-23*

By the authority of Jesus Christ I declare that God has mercy on you, pardons you and sets you free. Know that your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Sharing God’s Peace**

On the evening of Jesus’ resurrection, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. Jesus said, “Peace be with you.”

Through the power of the resurrection, Jesus Christ is present with us, and so we offer forgiveness and restoration to one another in Jesus’ name.

The Peace of Christ be with you!

**And also, with you!**

*(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula 'The Peace of Christ.' 'And also, with you.' Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. **We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.**)*

**\*Sung Response: GTG 582**

*"Glory to God, Whose..." Daniel A., Saxophonist*

## **God's Word Is Proclaimed**

**Scripture Reading: Acts 5:27-32 (Common English Bible)**

page 123 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 1330 (CEB)

Bringing them back, they stood them before the High Council. The Chief Priest said, "Didn't we give you strict orders not to teach in Jesus' name? And here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are trying your best to blame us for the death of this man."

Peter and the apostles answered, "It's necessary to obey God rather than men. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, the One you killed by hanging him on a cross. God set him on high at his side, Prince and Savior, to give Israel the gift of a changed life and sins forgiven. And we are witnesses to these things. The Holy Spirit, whom God gives to those who obey him, corroborates every detail."

**Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31 (Common English Bible)**

page 115 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 1321 (CEB)

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

## **Children's Time**

*Jennifer Zander*

**\*Sung Response: GTG 297 "In Christ Called to Baptize"**

**Sermon: "We Are Witnesses"**

*Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin*

## **We Respond to God's Word**

**Moment for Mission: Blood Drive**

*Wendy P.*

### **The Practice of Gratitude**

*In response to God's Word and remembering all things come from God, we offer with thanks a portion of that which God has entrusted to us. The ushers will collect God's tithes and our offerings. For those who have given in other forms, there are cards in the pew racks that you may use as a tangible action of gratitude to God. No matter what we return to God in material forms, may we spiritually place our hearts, and our very lives, in God's hands, to be re-shaped for ministry in Christ, furthering God's kingdom here on earth.*

**Offering Music:** “Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” by *Hal H. Hopson*

**\*Offertory: GTG 240** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (refrain only)

**\*Offertory Prayer**

## **Volunteer Recognition – Loving Team**

### **Prayers of the People**

Anna J\* (Katy J. mom)

Arnold L.

Bob & Ollive B.

Brian C.

Chastity G. & Joan S.

Corinne C.

Del C.

Dick and Maryann\*

Elias B.\* (Laurie C grandson)

Gib D.

Pete D.

**Jack K\* (Jolene S BIL)**

James P.\* (Ruth P. friend)

Jesse F.

Joan K.\* (Marcus A. mom)

Kathy A\* (Kevin B sister)

Kathy G.

Liam A.

Lindsay\* (Bill/Mary daughter)

Lynn M.

Marie L.

**Mary C-A.\***

Paige T.

Pass Family

Pat D.

Pat M.\* (Bonnie H sister)

Paul W.

Qualine S.\* (Jodi A mom)

Rod M\* (Mary/Dan R friend)

Sherry M.

Steven B.\* (Kevin B nephew)

Steve R.\* (Sue B brother)

### **Henry C. in the death of Ellen C.**

The names in **bold** are new to the prayer list. The names with an asterisk (\*) are not church members. However, a church member has received permission to ask that they be lifted in prayer. Prayer request cards are available in the Prayer Box in the Narthex, in the church pews, or online ([click here](#)). You can place your prayer request in the offering plate or the lock box at the church office door. For electronic prayer requests, please complete the form and click submit. If you have a pastoral concern, that happens before or after office hours, please call the office (920.922.0425), press #2 for Pastoral Care.

### **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.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**

**\*Sung response: GTG 804 “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”**

**\*Taking the Light of Christ into the World**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude: “Marion”**

*arr. by John Behnke*

## **WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR APRIL 20, 2025**

Individuals in Person: 188

Zoom Households: 5

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>NOTES</u></b>
4/20/25	\$1495.75	Tithes/Offerings
	\$ 195.00	Special Offerings
4/14-18/25	2581.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings"
	160.00	Vanco Special Offerings
	<b>\$ 4431.75</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE WEEK</b>

## **Financial Giving and Gratitude**

You can give online at [www.fdlpresbyterian.org](http://www.fdlpresbyterian.org) Giving page. (Click on 'Online Giving'.) You can also give by cash or check on Sunday morning, or by mail. We are so very thankful for your contributions that help us do God's work in our church and in our community.

### **GETTING CONNECTED:**

Office Phone

920.922.0425

Office Email

[fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org)

Website

[www.fdlpresbyterian.org](http://www.fdlpresbyterian.org)

Breeze Subdomain: [FDLFirstPresb](http://FDLFirstPresb)

Facebook [First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

YouTube [First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

**Deacon of the Month:** Judy Dassow

**Elder of the Month:** Laurie Christie

### **STAFF:**

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin

[pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org)

Jennifer Zander

[jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org)

Kris Bartelt

[kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org)

Mary Robotka

[mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org)

## **This Week**

### **Sunday**

9:00-10:00am  
10:15-11:15am  
10:15-11:15am  
10:15-11:15am

### **April 27**

Worship  
Fellowship Time  
Sunday School  
Growing Connections- Sleep in Heavenly Peace

### **Monday**

10:00-11:30am  
1:00-2:30pm

### **April 28**

Staff Meeting  
Personnel Team Meeting

### **Wednesday**

8:00-9:00am  
4:00-5:00pm  
5:00-6:30pm  
5:00-7:30pm

### **April 30**

Men's Breakfast  
Handbell Rehearsal  
Worship Team Meeting  
Confirmation Class

### **Saturday**

8:00-12:00am

### **May 3**

Piano Playground Spring Concert

### **Sunday**

9:00-10:00am  
10:15-11:15am  
10:15-11:15am  
10:15-11:15am  
6:00-7:30pm

### **May 4 Confirmation Sunday**

Worship  
Fellowship Time  
Sunday School  
Growing Connections- Sermon Discussions  
Boy Scout Committee Meeting