

Fourth Sunday of Easter

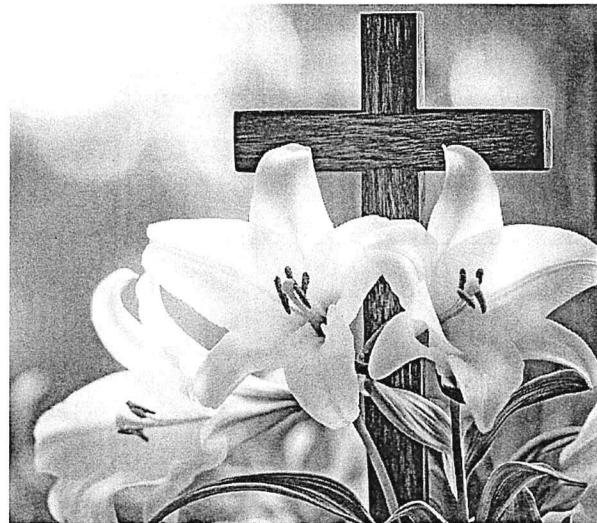
April 26, 2026

9:45 a.m.

OUR LORD'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There's a Place for You Here



*As you view and participate in this worship please note that **bolded text** invites ALL to voice.*

Gathering Music "Angel Eyes"

by Jim Brickman

GATHERING TOGETHER

Wondering Out Loud

Love is never passive.

It is a force that (re)shapes us - from the inside out.

Love causes us to break down barriers, confront injustice, and build a world where everyone belongs. What does loving boldly look like in and through you/us?

We worship committed to Christ and with open arms to the world.

Think on This for Today

Loving boldly means responding to God's love with courage, compassion, and intentional action - embracing neighbor and stranger alike with the generous love of Christ.

Prelude "Breath of God, Breath of Peace"

"Down to the River to Pray"

from W&S #3145

from W&S #3164

Graceful Engagement

*Call to Worship

Family of God, who are you?

We are disciples formed in the image of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Family, of God, how does Jesus form you?

By loving us and showing us how to love.

cont.

Family of God, how does the Holy Spirit empower you?

By loving us and inspiring us to love others as Christ loves us.

Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone – God is with us!

We come to worship God, who shows us how to love and calls us to boldly love God and neighbor, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world.

*Opening Hymn "We Are the Body of Christ" *all*

FWS 2227

*Opening Prayer

Almighty, all-merciful God, through Christ Jesus, You have taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies. As we gather for worship and as we are sent from this place, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. Help us to encounter each person in light of the love and grace You have shown us in Christ. Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with mercy, and ALL are reconciled. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children's Message

One: And Jesus said... **ALL: Let the children come!**

Reading of Scripture Mark 12:28-34 CEB; Leviticus 19:9-18 CEB;
John 13:34-35 CEB

*Response

The word of God for ALL of us, God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Love Boldly"

RESPONDING TOGETHER

(please text prayers to 414-378-4012 and Pastor Kelly will receive them)

Response Hymn "Ubi Caritas" 2x

FWS 2179

Caring for Community, Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Responsive Prayer of Confession

A Moment for Silent Prayer

And, now let us share aloud:

There are times, O God, when our greatest sin is not what we do but what we fail to do. For those times when we have not spoken up; for those times when we have not acted; for those times when we have not responded: forgive us. Give us courage to name what is wrong when we see it. Give us confidence to do what is hard. Give us grace to reach out when that is frightening or uncomfortable. This we pray in Jesus' name. Let it be so.

Assurance of Forgiveness

New every morning is God's love for us, and so we are bold to proclaim the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and free! Thanks be to God!

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ALL Together

Pray in the language and version of the prayer that most speaks your heart.

Invitation to Giving Action

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you! **And, also with you!**

*Doxology "Eastertide"

TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, 88.44.88 WITH REFRAIN (ref. UMH 94)

Praise Jesus Christ, who rose from death!

Praise to the Source of life and breath!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to the Spirit, holy dove,

Giver of life, of peace, of love.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*Blessing Prayer

Gracious God of Love, You have taught us what love looks like, and You have commanded us to live it. In a world that rewards fear and self-interest, You call us to give boldly, to serve generously, and to risk loving with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. Receive these offerings as signs of our obedience and as seeds of a kin-dom where the welcome is wide, grace is abundant, and love never holds back. We give, not from obligation; we give from the joy of being shaped by Your love. Amen.

*Responsive Sending Forth

When love reigns, the world will change.

We go to be the love that the world needs.

For the kin-dom to become our beloved realm,

We go, in the assurance that the God of Love, who is Love, is with us.

***Final Blessing**

Respond "Yes!" after each blessing phrase and join in ALL together for the final phrase: "This day and in every day to come!"

***Closing Hymn "Jesu, Jesu" all verses**

UMH 432

***Postlude "As We Go"**

from W&S #3183

Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available. Visit our tech room and someone will help you.

Lectionary readings: Proverbs 4:10-18 "Admonition to keep to the right path"; Psalm 119:9-20 "The Glories of God's law"; 1 Peter 2:2-10 "God's chosen people"; John 14:1-14 "Christ the way, truth, life"



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Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Dave Smith, Rebecca Landgraf, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Debbie Huyck, Sue Schulkers, Karen Haubert, Don Mains

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org
Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org
Pastor: Kelly Liebenstein/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/

*Visit us on our website at www.ourlordsumc.org

Worship resource: Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Doxology from "Praising God" by Ruth C. Duck/Patricia Wilson-Kastner

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Our Lord's United Methodist Church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people's.

"love boldly, serve joyfully, lead courageously"