

Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude *Allegro non Molto* from Antonio Vivaldi
The Four Seasons

***Call to Worship** (Responsive)

We have come to worship God, the living God,

Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. Let us worship God!

***Hymn 755** *Alleluia! Laud and Blessing* Weiss Flaggen

Litany for Easter (Responsive)

God of surprises you call us from the narrowness of our traditions

to new ways of being church,

from the captivities of our culture

to creative witness for justice,

from the smallness of our horizons

to the bigness of your vision.

Clear the way in us, your people,

that we might call others to freedom and renewed faith.

Jesus, wounded healer, you call us from preoccupation with ourselves

to daily tasks of peacemaking,

from privilege to pilgrimage,

from insularity to inclusive community.

Clear the way in us, your people,

that we might call others to wholeness and integrity.

Holy, transforming Spirit, you call us from fear to faithfulness,

from clutter to clarity,

from a desire to control to deeper trust,

from the refusal to love to a readiness to risk.

Clear the way in us, your people,

that all might know the beauty and power and danger of the gospel. Amen.

***Word & Wonder – A Time for the Young & the Young at Heart**

Scripture Lesson Acts 16:16-34

Sermon Let Freedom Ring Rev. Christie Ashton

***Hymn 339** *Lift Every Voice and Sing* Lift Every Voice

***Affirmation of Faith** (Responsive)

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

As we pray together the prayer Christ taught us:

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.

***Hymn 295** *Go to the World!* Sine Nomine

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* arr. Hal Leonard

Worship Leader This Week: Brenda Brazier

Worship Leader Next Week: La Donna Bowers

What's Happening at Hope?

Save the Date: On Wednesday, May 13 at 5:30 p.m. our Playschool will present their end of year program followed by our annual cook-out at 5:30 p.m. We hope you will plan to join us as we support and celebrate another successful year of our Playschool ministry and enjoy fellowship with one another and our students and their families. This is always a fun time and we look forward to seeing you there!

Church Calendar at a Glance

April 26	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship NO Choir Practice
May 3	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship NO Choir Practice

The Elder on Call for April is Susan Terry She may be contacted at any time for information, emergencies, or concerns at **256-975-9847**.

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Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

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Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

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Go to the World!

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Prayer Concerns

Members:

Debbie Adsit
Traci Loveman
Holly Lowe
Luanne Biles
Andy Young
Shelby Albert

Family:

Kelley Waldron (Christie Ashton)
Lys Howdle (Susan Terry)
Parker Lord (Candy & Bob Lord)
Marcia Loveman (Peter Loveman)
Fred Jones (Bill Jones)

Friends:

Luke & Crystal Allen (Joanna Sterling-Clutts)
Margaret Bibb (Christie Ashton)
Barbara Dennis
Emily Loeb (Debbie Adsit)
Suzanne Minga (Traci Loveman)
Dr. Jon Wongsurawat (Traci Loveman)
Bob Harriger (Joanna Sterling-Clutts)
Melissa Altice (Angie Toles)
Mary Neikirk (Angie Toles)

Those serving in our military.

Those affected by natural disasters and war around the world.

Prayer Family of the Week:

Our prayer family of the week is **Bill and Christie Ashton**. This week, we ask the congregation to remember Bill, Christie, and their family, asking God to strengthen and bless them.

Our Mission Statement

Called by God's grace, we celebrate life with Hope by creating a loving Christian community, serving and worshipping God, and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We provide an open environment to explore God's will, to grow in commitment to Christ, and to be a refuge of healing.