

Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN – April 26, 2026
4th Sunday of Easter



When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10: 4

Service Notes: Prayer cards are available in your pews for the sharing of Joys and Concerns. You can give them to Sandy Garcia. We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in **BOLD**. *Indicates when to stand in body or spirit.

Worship Volunteers: Worship Leader: Pastor Sandy Garcia – Lay Leader: Tyler Bowers – Children’s Message: Todd German – Ushers: Pam Callahan, Grace Hochstetler, & Tyler Bowers – Tech: John Current & Bill Werling – Counters: Pam Callahan & Jon Wolf – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

Prelude *More Love to Thee with More Love, More Power* arr. by Tornquist

Welcome

***Call to Worship —**

The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.

We come seeking rest, seeking guidance, seeking life.

Jesus calls us by name and leads us to abundant life.

We listen for his voice and follow where he leads.

Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn — #39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

***Call to Confession —**

Jesus calls us into abundant life, yet we often settle for less—holding back, closing ourselves off, and failing to trust the Good Shepherd.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***Prayer of Confession —**

Merciful God, we confess that we do not always listen for your voice. We follow the noise of the world instead of your call. We cling to what is familiar rather than trusting where you lead. We hold tightly to what we have instead of sharing with those in need. Forgive us, O God. Restore us to your flock, and lead us again in paths of life. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession

***Assurance of Pardon –**

Friends, hear the good news: Jesus says, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Song of Assurance #583 “Glory to God”

***Passing the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Children’s Message

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, that as your Word is read and proclaimed, we may hear your voice and follow where you lead. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

p.1694

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in

common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Gospel Reading – John 10:1-10

p.1699

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Message

This is What Resurrection Community Looks Like!

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn of Response — #236 “The Strife Is O’er”**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Good Shepherd, you call us by name and lead us into life that is abundant and shared. We come before you now, trusting in your care.

We pray for your Church—that we may listen for your voice and live as a community shaped by grace, generosity, and love. Help us to welcome others, share what we have, and bear witness to your goodness.

We pray for the world—for places marked by conflict, fear, and uncertainty. Guide leaders in wisdom and compassion, and bring peace where there is division.

We pray for those in need—for the sick, the grieving, and the weary; for all who feel lost or alone. Surround them with your presence

and remind them they are known and loved.

We pray for this community—that we may grow in trust with one another, care for each other faithfully, and create spaces where all can belong.

We pray for ourselves—give us courage to follow your voice, trust in your leading, and joy in the life you offer.

Good Shepherd, guide us, hold us, and lead us, now and always.

We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, who taught us to pray...

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.

Call to Offering

In the early church, believers shared what they had so that all might have enough. Let us offer our gifts in gratitude for the abundant life we have received.

Offertory

My Jesus, I Love Thee by Gordon

*Doxology #609 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

**Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit
one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication –

Let us pray: Generous God, you provide for us in abundance.
Receive these gifts and use them to build communities of care,
where all may find belonging and life. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Announcements

*Closing Hymn – #542 “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude *He Lives! Sound Praises!* by Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sandy Garcia Out of the Office: Sandy will be out of the office from April 27th through May 2nd. While gone, she will be attending a conference/retreat in Lake Tahoe focusing on immigration and new worshiping communities.

Annual Congregational Life Tin Caps Outing: Everyone is invited to Grace’s Annual Tin Caps Outing. The game is May 10th. The cost for a ticket is \$30. We will be in a concourse suite which will include access to a taco bar. Deadline to reserve your spot is April 26th. There a sign up in

the narthex or reach out to Tammy Menkes.

Spanish Club: Everyone is invited to join the club. Thursdays at Grace, 5:30 PM. Learn some Spanish while hanging out with Sandy Garcia, or practice what you already know.

Please Submit Any Items You Have for the Newsletter:

Prayer Requests

- Prayers of peace and comfort for Butch, Sue's nephew, as he deals with his cancer.
- Prayers of gratitude for Vivian's successful procedure.
- Prayers for You to be with us, our country, and the world during these troubling times.

Birthdays

Elaine Louise Lochry - April 26

Loretta Mary Lochry - April 26

Dylan Hochstetler - April 28

Audre Seitz - April 30

Alex Bowers - May 1

Tamara Searer-Jenkins - May 3

Anniversaries

Worship Volunteers for May 3, 2026

Lay Leader - Bob Bausser

Children's Message - Cindy Bowers

Ushers - Katelyn Monnier, Nancy Current, & Sue Creager

Technology - Stacey Monnier & Tom Monnier

Counters - Cathy German & Stacey Monnier

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row;

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love,
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
 MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923
 Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS
 11.10.11.10 with refrain

The Strife Is O'er

236

Refrain (before stanza 1 and after stanza 4)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped; Christ ris - es
 4 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shouts of ho - ly
 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 sting thy ser - vants free, that we may live, and

has be - gun.
 joy out - burst.
 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 sing to thee:

The Latin text from which this hymn has been translated may well be older than its earliest printing in a 17th-century collection published in Cologne. It is set to an adaptation of a portion of the Gloria Patri section from a 16th-century choral version of the Magnificat.

TEXT: Latin hymn, c. 1695; trans. Francis Pott, 1861
 MUSIC: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1591; adapt. William Henry Monk, 1861

VICTORY
 B.B.8 with alleluias

SENDING

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:
 vide you:
 round you:
 fore you:
 God be with you till we meet a - gain.

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

TEXT: Jeremiah Earnes Rankin, 1880; alt.
 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU
 9.8.8.9
 (alternate tune: RANDOLPH, 541)

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