



Sunday, April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the day as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Prelude

Little Prelude no. 8 in B flat Major BWV 560
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 56:10-13

¹⁰ In God, whose word I praise,
in the Lord, whose word I praise—
¹¹ in God I trust and am not afraid.
What can man do to me?
¹² I am under vows to you, my God;
I will present my thank offerings to you.
¹³ For you have delivered me from death
and my feet from stumbling,
that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Introit

“Come Worship the Lord”
Words & Music: Earlene Rentz

Adult Choir
Chandler Cudlipp, Director

*Call to Worship - Revelation 15:3b-4

Peter Chen

Leader: Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty.

People: Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.

Leader: Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?

People: For you alone are holy.

Leader: All nations will come and worship before you,

People: for your righteous acts have been revealed.

*Hymn of Praise – #122 “Thine is the Glory”

Prayer of Confession –

Gracious God, We acknowledge today our failure to live up to our callings as followers of Christ. We have been called to live lives of hope; **instead, we live lives of fear.**

We have been called to serve others; **instead, we seek to be served.**

We have been called to live in peace; **instead, we create conflict.**

We have been called to be holy; **instead, we reflect the culture around us.**

We have been called to be generous to others, **instead, we accrue and amass, store up and pile up for ourselves.**

We have been called to repay evil with blessing; **instead, we seek retribution and revenge.**

We have been called to witness to the power of Christ; **instead, we demonstrate the weakness of our wills.**

Through your Holy Spirit, shape and mold us into the disciples you have called us to be. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon – Micah 7:18-19

Leader: Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance?

People: You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

Leader: You will again have compassion on us;

People: you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

God's Gracious Will for Our Lives – Ephesians 4:1-5

Leader: As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

People: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

***Gloria Patri #579** "Glory Be to the Father"

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Message

Nathan Wannemacher

Choral Prayer of Illumination

"Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet"

Music: Howard Nelson

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 61:10-11 (p. 750)

Peter Chen

New Testament Reading – Acts 9:19-32 (p. 1103)

Sermon – "Paul's Resurrection Life: Fulfilling the Calling"

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn of Response** – #339 "Be Thou My Vision"

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Tariq Dennison, Treasurer

Offertory

"I Can Hear My Savior Calling"

Words: Edward W. Blandy

Music: attr. to John S. Norris or Philip P. Bliss

***Doxology #592** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayers of the People

Tariq Dennison

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Guests

Tariq Dennison

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication** – #525 "Here I Am, Lord"

***Sending and Pastoral Benediction**

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Choral Benediction

"May the Road Rise to Meet You"

Music: Jody Lindh

Postlude

Fantasy in G Major BWV 572

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Please remain quietly seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

***Please stand if you are able.**

Today's bulletin cover features Greek artist El Greco's "Apostle St. Paul" (ca. 1610-1614). "In this painting El Greco shows St Paul with a sword, the instrument of his martyrdom, and a letter inscribed in cursive Greek 'To Titus, ordained first bishop of the church of the Cretans'. St Paul appears a great number of times in El Greco's oeuvre and he is depicted with remarkable consistency. The saint is always shown slightly balding, with dark hair and beard, wearing a red mantle thrown over a blue or green tunic." https://www.wga.hu/html_m/g/greco_el/18/1812grec.html. This oil on canvas work is part of the collection of the Museo de El Greco in Toledo, Spain.