

United Presbyterian Church
April 19, 2026 Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome and Announcements Elder Allen Pease
Prelude Benjamin Watkins, piano

Call to Worship (from Psalm 116) Thomas Koehnline, Liturgist
Liturgist: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of
the Lord.

People: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,
Liturgist: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

People Praise the Lord!

Opening Hymn: *Morning Has Broken* #469

Call to Confession

1 Peter 1:21 says, "Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God." It is because of our trust in the resurrection that each week we confess together the ways our faith and hope have not been set on God. When we confess, we name our sins and commit to turn toward the life God calls us into again. With that in mind we join our voices praying together.

Prayer of Confession (in unison with Pastor)

Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We turn away from systems that challenge our way of thinking, choosing to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions. Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward

you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

In Acts 2:39, Peter says: "For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." Receive the good news, Children of God, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

* *Gloria Patri* #579

***Passing of the Peace**

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Pastor: Let us share that peace with one another.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy Creator, reveal yourself to us in the reading and proclamation of your Word. Give us ears to hear your voice, eyes that see you among us, and hearts that are willing to follow where you lead. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

Music for Meditation

UPC Quartet

New Testament Lesson *Acts 2:14a, 36-41* – Liturgist

Gospel Lesson *Luke: 24: 13-35* – Reverend

Pastor: The words of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Joy Is A Stranger* Reverend Dr. Catherine Knott

*Hymn of Praise: *Live Into Hope* #332

Affirmation of faith (The Confession of Belhar) led by Rev. Knott

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the

church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer—Deacon Michelle Heitink
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 – Deacon Michelle Heitink

Offertory

**Doxology* #592

Prayer of Dedication – Reverend Knott

***Closing Hymn:** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* #101

CHARGE and BENEDICTION Reverend Dr. Catherine Knott

POSTLUDE Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

Kevin Roby Troy Virginia Kathleen Anita

His Eyes Mission in Honduras Nyaka Global in Uganda

All people who are suffering from armed conflict.

Valley City Presbyterian Church is a small church southwest of Corydon in a rural setting. Rev. Robert Brill is pastor. We come together each week to worship God and to find meaningful ways to show our love for Jesus Christ. Our mission is to be the face of Jesus in our community. This is what God calls us to do.



Commissioned Pastor – Alejandra Haddad – (812) 322-5327
(812) 332-1850 upcbloomington@gmail.com

TODAY! UPC is invited to . . . Bloomington Chamber Singers' 4:00pm concert at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 100 St. Rd. 46. They'll perform Duruflé's 1947 *Requiem*. 4pm; Seating is festival. ADA. \$20 General, \$15 Students: www.chambersingers.info or at door.

Christmas Past . . . 50 worshippers attended UPC's inspirational Fourth Sunday of Advent service and Christmas lunch hosted by Alejandra and Souheil Haddad afterwards. The day was a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. Now, for the very first time – we see the photos!

