

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 28th, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter



"Turn around and believe that the good news that we are loved is better than we ever dared hope, and that to believe in that good news, to live out of it and toward it, to be in love with that good news, is of all glad things in this world the gladdest thing of all."
— Frederick Buechner

Sunday Worship
10:00 am

Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday
8:30 am – 12 Noon, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
541-926-5551



330 Fifth Avenue Southwest
Albany, OR 97321

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

*You are invited to make the transition from getting here to being here. Be still and know that God is God.
We are claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism; the light of Christ shines in our lives and in the world.*

Welcome &

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Announcements

And also with you.

+ Invitation to Worship

We gather today to worship the One who created us,

The One who loves us without end.

The One who accepts us as we are,

and who covers us with grace.

The One who calls us,

and who equips us to love boldly.

With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

+ Gathering Hymn 610

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

We Offer Our Gratitude

Community Prayer

Allison Reid

All knowing God, in reverence we bring our shortcomings to you.

**You give us a simple command—to love—and we complicate it with
rules, worries, and doubts.**

We value our choices more than your guidance,

our abundance more than the needs of others,

ourselves more than your beloved community.

Restore us in faith and spirit.

Help us remember how you have planted seeds of mercy, hope,

and grace deep within us, so we might bear nourishing fruit for others.

Give us courage to follow in your way, loving you and others each day.

Amen.

Sung Response 188

"Jesus Loves Me!"

+ Passing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

As you are willing and able, please greet one another with signs of peace.

Invitation to the Offering

We are grateful for the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that you share.

We offer each person an opportunity to connect with giving by placing at least one \$1 in the offering plate.

As we give faithfully, each faithful \$1 will bless the ministry of UPC.

Offertory Anthem

"Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"

arr. Young

**Presentation of Gifts
& Hymn 628**

"Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord" (Verses 2-3)

We Listen & Receive

Time with the Young Church

Children of all ages are invited to come forward.

Nursery and Children's Worship info is on the back of the bulletin.

Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-40

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Good News"

Brandon Lewis

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn 822

"When We Are Living"

Moment for Stewardship

Sheri Rogers

**Prayers of the People
& The Lord's Prayer**

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.

We Are Sent in God's Love

+ Closing Hymn 747

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

+ Benediction

Postlude

Welcome

We are delighted that you have added to the joy of worship this morning at United Presbyterian Church. We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Jesus Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey—whatever grief, joy, or doubts you may bring today—you are welcome here.

Announcements

Discovering Scotland

Saturday, May 3- Sunday, May 11, 2025
Contact Tami VanRas if you are interested in going.

Enneagram- Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson Doughty

Sunday, May 18, 2024 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Learn about the nine personality types.
Early Bird Registration is \$25.00.

Upcoming Events

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| Sunday 10:00AM 11:45AM | April 28 Sunday Worship Deacons Meeting |
| Monday 6:00PM | April 29 ACT Practice |
| Tuesday 10:00AM 5:30PM | April 30 Unoffendable Book Study Women's Evening Bible Study |
| Wednesday 7:00AM 5:30PM 6:00PM 7:00PM | May 1 Early Risers Fellowship – Sweetwaters Youth Group Family Aging Support Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursday 11:30AM | May 2 Yoga for All - Booth Hall |
| Friday 8:30AM 9:00AM | May 3 Parent– Teacher Reviews Tabitha Society |

Serving Today

Thank you to all who served in worship today.

Liturgist – Allison Reid
Ushers – Annie Kumpula, Peter Troedsson, Mike and Maureen Wellman
Coffee Hour – Gathering Committee
Childrens Programs – Sienna Bogart and Tarryn Scroggins, Estella Riddle and Josiah Blaisdell

Children's Programs

We are thrilled that you have chosen to bring your family to worship with ours! We believe children soak up the love of God even when they draw and color, read and create, or rest their head in your lap. Please feel welcome to visit our Children's Space located in the Round Room in the back of the sanctuary.

Children's Nursery

The nursery (Room 208) will be available for infants—age 3 during worship services. Children can be dropped off any time after 9:30am and picked up following worship.

Godly Play

Age 3 – Grade 2 | Godly Play

As a continuation of worship, Godly Play is a formational practice of exploring the mystery of God's inviting presence in our lives, teaching children how to listen for God and then to make authentic and creative responses to God.

Creative Minds

Grade 3+ | Youth Room

Creative Minds is a formational practice for older children and youth to engage, explore, and re-create the fascinating biblical stories of our faith through the world of Minecraft technology.

Local Outreach | Ways to Serve

Linn Benton Food Share—Packing boxes of food for families who suffer from food insecurities. **May 2**

Prayers & Praise

Please send prayers of comfort and healing for:

Claude Meyers
The Reid Family
Bill Hulshof
The Hanson Family
Bill Sissel
The Family of Alyssa Kleven-Morrison
The Family of Bob Nelson (*Andy Nelson's Uncle*)

CHURCH STAFF

Brandon Lewis, Pastor
Tami Van Ras, Pastoral Assistant
Sienna Bogart, Director of Children's & Family Ministries
Deborah Beier, Office Assistant
Michelle Mayers, Music Coordinator/Choir Director
Tao Li, Pianist
Kason Stevens, Facilities-Manager
Chris Misa, AV Tech
Logan Breese, Bus Driver