



# CHRIST CHURCH

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN & AFFIRMING WISE CONGREGATION.

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



April 26<sup>th</sup> 2026

9:30 AM



Dupre, Julien, 1851-1910. The Good Shepherd, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54256> [retrieved April 21, 2026]. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/thomashawk/2202377733/>.

*"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" -Psalm 23:4*

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

*\* Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Quiet meditation at the first note of the prelude.*

**PRELUDE**

\*\*\*\*\* **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES** \*\*\*\*\*

**HYMN** "They'll Know We Are Christians" (music supplement pg. 7)

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The Lord is our shepherd.

**All: We are Christ's sheep.**

One: The shepherd shelters us in green pastures.

**All: In Christ, we dwell secure.**

One: The shepherd nourishes us and restores our souls.

**All: Christ is our shepherd and gate to the Most High.**

\*\*\*\*\* **BELL** \*\*\*\*\*

**\*HYMN** "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" (Red Hymnal 279)

**OPENING PRAYER**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION** (unison)

Loving Shepherd, even when we stray, we long to be gathered to your side. Even when we strive to find our own way, we yearn to return to your fold and rest secure in your gentle arms. Even when we bleat our resistance, we seek your guidance and direction in our lives. Be our gate, our way to safe havens, where we can always find our way home and dwell secure in your love. Amen.

*TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION*

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

**WAVING A SIGN OF PEACE** 🙌

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

**READINGS** (CEB)

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 2:19-25

\*John 10:1-10

**SERMON** "Finding our Place in the Fold" Rev. Gilbert Martinez

**RESPONSE to scripture**(*twice*)      b Je-su, Je-su, fill us with your love, show b  
b us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you. b

## RECEPTION OF MEMBER

### INVITATION

### SENTENCES

## QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

Pastor: Do you desire to affirm your baptism/be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

**Candidate: I do.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

**Candidate: I do.**

Pastor: Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

**Candidate: I do.**

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple...as best you are able?

**Candidate: I promise, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given to you...Christ's mission in all the world?

**Candidate: I promise, with the help of God.**

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

**All: We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in the true Man, Jesus, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by his Spirit. We trust him. He calls us to be his church: to celebrate his presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

### ADDRESS

## QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you promise...serves this community and the world?

**Candidate: I promise, with the help of God.**

## WELCOME & RECEPTION

Pastor: Let us, the members of Christ Church United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**All: We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

### PRAYER

#### \*HYMN

*"Blest Be the Tie"*

*(music supplement pg. 8)*

### PRAYER OF PETITION

**THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US** (*unison*). *please recite the version closest to your heart*  
(Our Father, Our Mother, Our Parent, etc.)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY**

**OFFERTORY** The ushers will bring the collection basket to you. Thank you for your continued support. *Other ways to give:* Text-to-Give (847) 750-3007 Online: <https://bit.ly/CCUCCGiving>



**HYMN** "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" (*music supplement pg. 9*)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (*After the benediction, you are invited to respond with these words.*)  
We go in peace, trusting the Shepherd who leads us.

\*\*\*\*\* **Bell & Extinguishing of the Candles** \*\*\*\*\*

**\*HYMN** "I Greet You, Sure Redeemer" (*music supplement pg. 10*)

**POSTLUDE**

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

For those looking to apply for our scholarships, use the QR codes below to fill out an electronic application.



## REV. DR. GEORGE GOEBEL SCHOLARSHIP

Benefiting church members who are pursuing higher education.

<https://tinyurl.com/fhdtz34b>



## CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

Helping youth experience the joy of camp through faith and community support.

<https://tinyurl.com/e33a2k7y>



<https://bit.ly/CCUCCAPP>

### **Download Our Church App!**

Stay connected with our church family anytime, anywhere. Access sermons, events, updates, and so much more—all right at your fingertips. Don't miss out on this convenient way to stay in the loop! Download it today!

**Scan to download the app**



OR



Greater  
Family  
Health <sup>SM</sup>  
Care to live greater.



# FREE & CONFIDENTIAL RAPID HIV TESTING

Greater Family Health, in partnership with Christ Church UCC and Camino Rising, will be on-site to conduct rapid HIV testing and prevention education Tuesdays from 9 AM - 1 PM at Christ Church in Des Plaines

- Free and confidential risk based HIV testing
- Safe sex kit distribution
- Prevention education



Call for  
**Select  
Tuesdays**  
9 AM - 1 PM  
1492 Henry Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 60016

## MORE INFO

844-599-3700  
[www.greaterfamilyhealth.org](http://www.greaterfamilyhealth.org)

# IN MEMORY / HONOR

With heartfelt gratitude to the congregation for supporting my journey to ordained ministry 30 years ago (January 12, 1996) - Rev. Carol Currier Frighetto



## May we continue special prayers for...

## Homebound\*

Marion Meseth*	Marilyn McCown	Rev. Marcia Urban	Isabell Kendl
Dawn Mashek	Dorothy Zemke*	Jack Branding	Documented &
Linda Steckel	Kelly Roberts	Charles Eppely	Undocumented
Jack Storm	Hope & Bruce Tschappat	Alice Barnhart	Immigrants
Marilyn Hoover*	Helen Harney	The Hudsons	Our Country
Sue Prunty	Caid Carter	Julie Radman	Ukraine, Lebanon,
John Prellberg	Ariana Subera	Grice Family	Palestinian, and Israeli
Grace Pastor	Louis Georgioulis	Andrea Putz-Cheng	citizens

## Special prayers for:

Those living with mental illness, illness, without a home or food, our church community, service people, veterans, our nation, and our leaders.



# Happy Birthday!

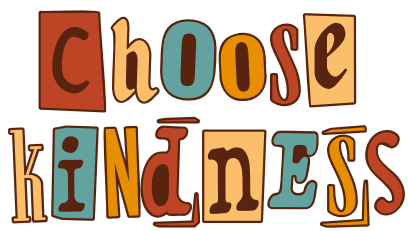
28 - Timothy Barnhart

30 - Joe Busse

## Thanks to everyone scheduled to help with worship:

<b>Pastor</b> .....	Rev. Gilbert Martinez
<b>Liturgist/Lector</b> .....	Putz-Cheng Family
<b>Music Director</b> .....	Karen Wilberg
<b>Council Greeter</b> .....	Laura Hallberg
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Donna Boyko, Alice Barnhart, Jan Storm, Julie Radman, Carolyn Amick

**Include Resources:** MinistryMatters; UCC Book of Worship; [faithandworship.com/prayers\\_love\\_your-neighbor](http://faithandworship.com/prayers_love_your-neighbor).



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:** 57±  
*Our attendance is calculated using our LIVE Facebook viewers and those in person.*

**GET IT TOGETHER:** Tiny Toes & Big Hearts! Our Get It Together group crafted blankets, hats & booties for Project Baby Blanket! They'll bring a little love to NICU babies. Can you crochet or knit? Consider joining our group! The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the lounge. *The next meeting will be on May 20th, from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.*


**MEN'S LUNCH:** Held on the second Monday of every month at 11:45 am, at Sunrise Grill.

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** Held the second Tuesday of every month at 9:00 am, at Sunrise Grill.

**SELF-HELP CLOSET & PANTRY:** They are in dire need of the following items: ketchup, mustard, mayo, pasta sauce (plain), flour, sugar, instant coffee, breakfast cereal (chocolate), new or like-new clean bed linens and towels, men's, women's, children's underwear (all sizes), body wash, shampoo, dish soap, laundry detergent, and paper towels. Please bring clean, dry plastic grocery bags.

**COMMUNITY BACKPACK PROJECT:** If you would like to bring items for The Community Backpack Project, these are the suggested items (please no glass jars): single serve breakfast cereal, instant oatmeal packets, pancake mix, canned red beans, one-pound bags of rice, pasta and pasta sauce, canned soup, canned pasta, stew or chili, peanut butter and jelly, fruit cups, pudding cups, fruit snacks, individually-wrapped snacks and chips. Please place them in the blue bins. Speak to Cathy for more information!

**COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UP:** Looking for a way to get involved? Sign-up for coffee hour in the office.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Sign-up sheet is available in the office. 

**REV. DR. WILLIAM G. GRICE III's MEMORIAL SERVICE** will be held on **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Visitation will start at **9:30 AM** and the service will commence at **10 AM** with a luncheon to follow.

**TRIVIA CONTEST @ TRINITY LUTHERAN:** Form a group of 2-6 to compete in trivia on **July 18<sup>th</sup>** ! \$20 per participant, and refreshments served. Sign up on the Trinity website, or using the QR code.

[trinitydesplaines.org/trivia-night](http://trinitydesplaines.org/trivia-night)



Tour the facility and enjoy some fun activities at GENCenter! Refreshments will be served.

**April 27th**  
**10 AM to 12 PM**  
**52 E Northwest Hwy, Des Plaines, IL 60016**

**RELIABLE HELP FOR ALL YOUR HOME REPAIR AND UPKEEP NEEDS!** Services include general repairs, minor electrical & plumbing, painting, flooring, furniture assembly, power washing, landscaping, and home & window cleaning. **Call Emanuel at (224) 392-9069**





## **Christ Church**

**United Church of Christ**

**1492 Henry Avenue - Des Plaines, IL 60016**

**847-297-4230**

**Tuesday - Friday**

**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

### **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

**Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 3 pm;**

***Days off:* Friday & Saturday**



**Website:** [christchurchuccdesplaines.org](http://christchurchuccdesplaines.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/christchurchuccdesplaines](https://facebook.com/christchurchuccdesplaines)

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/christchurchuccdesplaines](https://instagram.com/christchurchuccdesplaines)

### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Gilbert Martinez, Pastor**

[gilbert@christchurchuccdesplaines.org](mailto:gilbert@christchurchuccdesplaines.org)

**Kat Chwalisz, Administrative Assistant**

[kat@christchurchuccdesplaines.org](mailto:kat@christchurchuccdesplaines.org)

**Helayne Levin, Finance Coordinator**

[helayne@christchurchuccdesplaines.org](mailto:helayne@christchurchuccdesplaines.org)

**Karen Wilberg, Music Director & Church Organist**

[karen@christchurchuccdesplaines.org](mailto:karen@christchurchuccdesplaines.org)

**Tommie Jordan, Custodian**

**Emanuel Alvarez, Maintenance Technician**

**Rita S. Barth, Faith Forward Adventures Lead Teacher**

**Grace Pastor, Faith Forward Adventures Teacher**

### **Lay Ministry: All Members**

Judy Rosedale, *Council President*; Laura Hallberg, *Council Vice-President*

Council greeters are available to listen to your questions, concerns

& positive feedback about worship and all areas of church life.

**Art Sketch of Church Front by Nancy Boeckenhauer 1990.**