

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026

11:00 AM

GATHERING, PRELUDE, Blest be the tie that binds 557  
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP / OPENING PRAYER Discipleship Ministries

Almighty, all-merciful God,  
through Christ Jesus, you have taught us to love one another,  
to love our neighbors as ourselves,  
and even to love our enemies.

As we gather for worship and as we are sent from this place,  
let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.  
Help us to encounter each person in light of  
the love and grace you have shown us in Christ.  
Establish among us a future where peace reigns,  
justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled.

**We ask these things in the name  
and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN: To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done! 98

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Acts 2: 42; John 10: 4

**Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us  
to be devoted to the teachings of your Word,  
that through it we may hear your voice  
and follow it into eternal life. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE: John 13:34-35;  
Leviticus 19:9-18;  
Mark 12:28-34;

CHOIR: God of Grace and God of Glory 577

CONFESSION Written by Beth Merrill Neel via Discipleship Ministries  
There are times, O God, when our greatest sin  
is not what we do but what we fail to do.  
For those times when we have not spoken up;  
for those times when we have not acted;  
for those times when we have not responded: forgive us.

Give us courage to name what is wrong when we see it.  
Give us confidence to do what is hard.  
Give us grace to reach out  
when that is frightening or uncomfortable.  
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

{silent prayers}

ASSURANCE Written by Beth Merrill Neel via Discipleship Ministries  
New every morning is God's love for us, and so we  
are bold to proclaim the Good News:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

EASTER SERMON SERIES Embracing an Adverbial Faith  
Week 3: Love Boldly

HYMN: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 381

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS  
THE LORD'S PRAYER  
BRINGING OUR GIFTS  
DOXOLOGY 95  
PRAYER

Ps. 23: 2, 5

**Generous God, you have anointed us and we are yours.  
Bless these tithes and offerings  
that they may become green pastures and still waters  
for any and all who need your comfort and restoration.**

HYMN: Where Charity and Love Prevail 549

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING Written by Dr. Cheryl Lindsay from Discipleship Ministries  
When love reigns, the world will change.  
Be the love that the world needs  
for the kin-dom to become our beloved realm.  
Go, in the assurance that the God of Love,  
Who is Love, is with you.

Amen

POSTLUDE God Be with You till We Meet Again 672

## Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

Year A – April 26, 2026 Fourth Sunday of Easter

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### Scriptures:

Acts 2: 42–47      1 Peter 2: 19–25  
Psalm 23            John 10: 1–10

### Questions for Reflection:

Acts 2: 42–47 describes what life was like in the early church.  
How do these words guide today's church?

### Morning Prayers:

Acts 2: 43–47

Generous God, thank you for the gift of this new day.  
Help me to watch for your signs and wonders  
in the world today,  
and fill my heart with gladness and generosity, that I may generate  
good will wherever I go. Amen.

### Evening Prayers:

Ps. 23

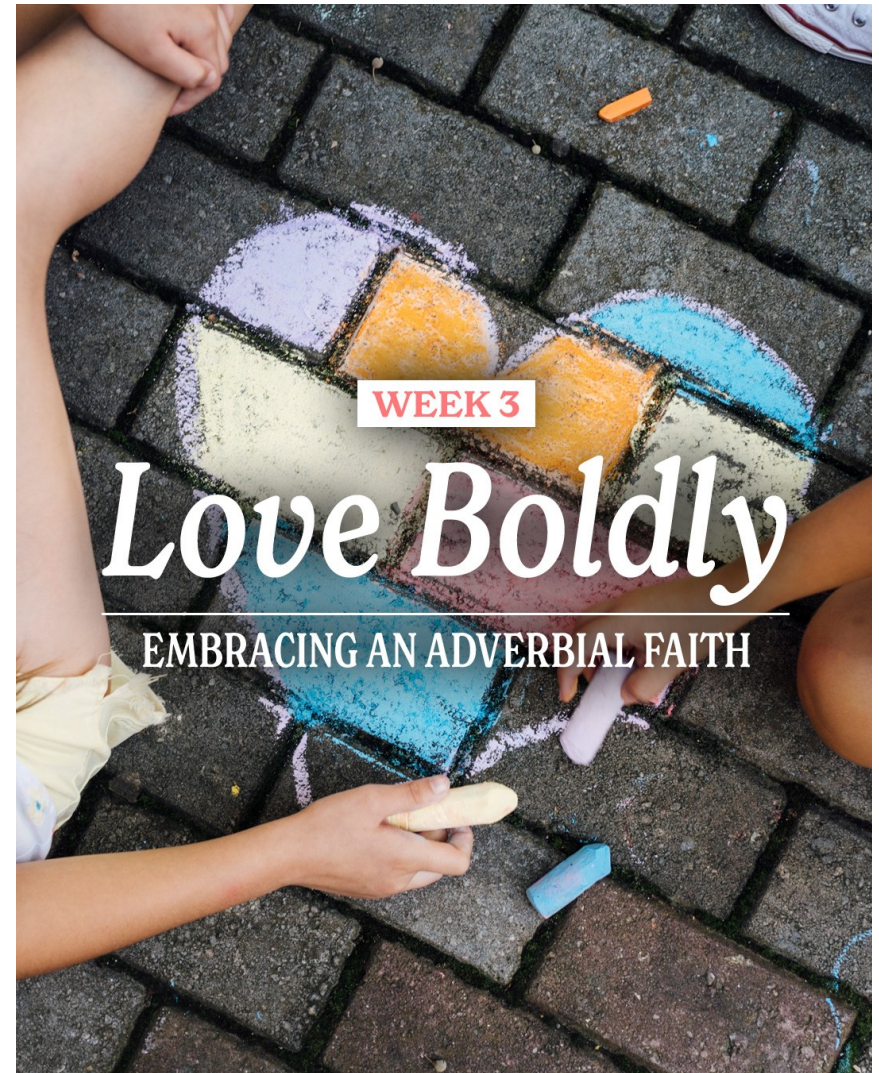
Thank you, God, for shepherding me through this day.  
As I lie down to sleep this night  
help me to imagine green pastures and still waters,  
and to remember all the ways you have set a table before me  
and filled my cup to overflowing. Amen.

**Bulletin Credits:** Some of the Liturgy is by the pastor (dwh)

or      That which is by others is used with permission.  
other sources are as noted. (Discipleship Ministries, Presbyterian Outlook, etc)

### Scriptures for Next Week -

Special Series: Psalm 100,      1 Peter 4:8-11  
Lectionary:      Acts 7: 55–60      1 Peter 2: 2–10  
                         Psalm 31: 1–5, 15–16      John 14: 1–14



## Clarksburg United Methodist Church

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