



April 19, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, IA



Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Spring Comes Early

Hayes

Welcome and Announcements:

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 40 selected verses

I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.

Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, LORD, as you know.

I do not hide your righteousness; I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.

I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness from the great assembly.

Do not withhold your mercy from me, LORD; may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

*HYMN

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today!"

#245, Hymnal

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

Let us confess our sins to God for he will abundantly pardon. *(Based on Ps. 103)*

O God you call us out of all that destroys us

Giving us new life, restoring us to wholeness and health.

Yet oftentimes as we heed your call,

We do it half-heartedly, trying to have our cake and eating it as well.

Forgive us, we pray, for our double mindedness

For the times when we think we can give our allegiance to both temporal things and your kingdom.

Change our hearts, O God, that we will seek you with a whole heart.

Help us to recognize that glitter is not always gold and the security that riches proffers is fleeting at best.

Make us truly yours, following you in all we think, say and do.

Grant us the courage to step into the light of your love and to be the lights of your love in this world of darkness.

Here are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. To all who confess their sins Jesus says, "Your sins are forgiven."

Now to the one who rules all worlds, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory, thanks and adoration now and forever and ever. Amen. ⁱ

Passing of the Peace

May the peace, love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Response to Grace:

#455, Hymnal

Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand.

Listen to the voice that began creation; listen even if you don't understand. (2x)

Special Music

Here I Am, Lord

Soloist: Nick Perry

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-33a

Now that very day two of them were on their way to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. While they were talking and debating these things, Jesus himself approached and began to accompany them (but their eyes were kept from recognizing him).

Then he said to them, "What are these matters you are discussing so intently as you walk along?"

And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have happened there in these days?"

He said to them, "What things?"

"The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene," they replied, "a man who, with his powerful deeds and words, proved to be a prophet before God and all the people; and how our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be condemned to death, and crucified him.

But we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. Not only this, but it is now the third day since these things happened. Furthermore, some women of our group amazed us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back and said they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

So he said to them, "You foolish people— how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into his glory?"

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things written about himself in all the scriptures. So they approached the village where they were going. He acted as though he wanted to go farther, but they urged him, "Stay with us, because it is getting toward evening and the day is almost done."

So he went in to stay with them. When he had taken his place at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. At this point their eyes were opened and they recognized him. Then he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us while he was speaking with us on the road, while he was explaining the scriptures to us?"

So they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem.

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The lectionary reader today is Nancy Valentine

First Church Staff

Rev. Tim Dyck, Pastor and Head of Staff

Gabe Wagner, Sanctuary Choir Director

Linda Wiles, Organist/Pianist; Handbell Choir Director

Amber Gilles, Office Manager & Streaming Service Operator

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm; Closed Fridays

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This service is being live streamed on our YouTube channel, bit.ly/firstpreswaterloo