

**Order of Service at the United Reformed Church**  
**April 19, 2026 9:30 a.m.**

**APPROACHING GOD**

Prelude Christ is Arisen; Alleluia! setting: Engel  
(A time of silence to prepare our hearts to worship; please silence your cell phone)

Word for 2026: **Practice.**

**People:** *May we practice becoming.*

Salutation

Grace and peace from God the Father and Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

Call to Worship

Christ is risen.

**Not only from the grave—  
but into our lives.**

**Resurrection is not behind us—  
it is breaking in, even now.**

So come—

bring your questions,  
bring your wounds,  
bring your hope.

**Because the Risen Christ**

**is still meeting people on the way.**

Let us worship God.

\*Opening Hymn (#349 Blue Book)

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Call to Confession

Resurrection reveals what is alive—and what is not. So we come, not pretending, but telling the truth—about where we have settled for less, where we have resisted transformation, where we have chosen comfort over new life. Trusting that God meets us not with condemnation—but with mercy that makes us new, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Living God, You call us into new life, but we cling to what is familiar. You speak hope, but we rehearse despair. You open the future, but we stay rooted in the past. We confess—we have heard the story of resurrection, but we have not always practiced it. We have chosen fear over courage, silence over truth, comfort over transformation. Forgive us. Meet us again—on whatever road we are walking. **Open our eyes, soften our hearts, and turn us toward life. In Christ, Amen.**  
(a moment for silent confession)

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: The God who raised Jesus from the dead is still raising people—still restoring, still renewing, still calling us forward. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, you are made new, you are invited to live.

**Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Song of Preparation (#297 Blue Book) Jesus Christ is Risen Today (verses 2 and 3)

*Please Remain Seated*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:18–20

The Word of God, for the People of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Do You Understand the Assignment?

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

Offertory

Near the Cross

arr. B. Waters/J. Kunick

*(Jesus keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain; free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain. In the cross, near the cross, be my glory ever, 'til my raptured soul shall find, rest beyond the river.)*  
Elizabeth Hyde, flute

\*Doxology

Tune (Old Hundreth)

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Affirmation of Faith (Belhar Confession)

Prayers of The People (insert) and The Lord's Prayer  
Announcements

\*Closing Hymn (#667 Blue Book)

Jesus Saves!

\*Benediction

Postlude

*Thine is the Glory*

setting: Jones

**Our Invitation**

Welcome to United Reformed Church! As we join together in prayer, song, and praise to God, we pray that the blessings and fellowship you find here will enrich your life. *If you are physically able, an asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to stand.* Bold text signifies opportunities for the congregation to read and respond responsively.

**Pastor Office Hours: Wednesday 5-7 PM; Sunday 10:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Church Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thurs 9AM-2PM; Wed 3-7 PM**

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lillian Hines

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Office Administrator: Kimberly Rembis

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