



**April 26, 2026**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross

Music Director: Terryl Dietert

Guitar/ Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba

Video: Richard Tremarello

Liturgist: Andy Oren

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*Welcome to Christ Church!* We are so glad you are here this morning! Whether you are a "first-timer," a regular, or somewhere in between, it is a joy to have you here with us this day. May you be blessed by God's Word in worship today! If you are a **first-time visitor**, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the offering plate, and then make your way to the Chapel (in the back) after worship where we have a small gift for you.

*\*Please stand as you are able*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude                      *The Day of Resurrection* - arr. Cota                      Bell Choir

\*Call to Worship

One: By Christ's love, we are made new in the beloved community of God.

**All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

\*We All Sing                      *God Is Here!*                      #1

\*Opening Prayer

One: Let us pray together.

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

\*The Peace

One: The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: I invite you to pass the peace of Christ to those near you, in whatever way you are most comfortable.

\*Response                      *Gloria, Gloria*                      #240

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia! Alleluia!**

Time for The Young and The Young at Heart

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Sermon

"Living in Community"

Pastor Bob

We All Sing

*Seek Ye First*

#349

\*Statement of Faith

*Mary Luti*

**Praise to you, God of creation, lover of all that is.  
 You are one and holy, beyond all names.  
 You command justice and judge with mercy.  
 Faithful forever, you made us the apple of your eye.  
 You never fail.  
 Praise to you, Christ Jesus, son of Mary,  
 sibling in the flesh, teacher of mercy, generous friend.  
 You loved sinners and spoke truth to all.  
 You were reviled by the powers and executed as a criminal.  
 You bear the wounds of love in risen flesh forever.  
 We follow you until you come again  
 bringing with you a gracious new world.  
 Praise to you Holy Spirit, wisdom and light,  
 giver of courage, bold words, and fearless imagination.  
 You bind us in love. You open a way. You guide us to truth.  
 You defend us before the powers. You are joy forever.  
 Praise to you, One God, for waters in which you claim us,  
 tables at which you feed us, saints who encourage us,  
 and mercy that impels us to resist evil, love our neighbors,  
 and forgive our enemies, so that the world may know  
 that you are good! Amen!**

## Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

*Jeanette, Jill U's long-time friend  
Family and friends of Sarah Hillmert  
From the Prayer Box: Anonymous and Patrick  
Joan A's grandson, Blair*

### 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### Calling for Our Best

One: Bountiful are God's gifts to us. In gratitude,  
let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to  
God's service.

SCAN TO DONATE



### Offertory

*Blest Be the Tie that Binds* - Nagelli

### \*We All Sing

*Doxology*

tune: *Old Hundredth*

**O morning of our hearts, we sing;  
our endless alleluias ring!  
Amid the shadows of our gloom  
new hope, new life, an empty tomb! Amen.**

### \*Prayer of Dedication

**All: Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor  
and the offering of our lives. We commit our lives to live in  
union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen Amen.**

### \*We All Sing

*This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

**#355**

\*Benediction

\*Response *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* (chorus only, 2X) #5

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Hallelujah, halle-lu-jah**

\*Postlude *One God, Creator of Us All* - Carlson/Matthews

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## **THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH**

### **Today**

Church Revitalization Book Study and Potluck

### **Tuesday, April 28**

Bible Study, 1pm

### **Wednesday, April 29**

Bible Study, 1pm

Amazing Faith Dinner Dialogues, 6pm

**Greeters:** Jan Naefken

**Counters:** Sara Rogers, Jill Unglaub

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thank You!** | My thanks to all the people from church who helped make my Easter a happy one by donating all the goodies in my Easter bag. There's so many treats that I'll have snacks for a long time, and I love them all, plus some extra items that are fun and useful. You people sure know how to please us older kids. I'm no longer driving, and I miss that a lot, especially for grocery shopping. But I get some rides from Z-Trips run my Milwaukee County which keeps me connected. *Marian Witter*

Dear Friends, What a nice surprise! We enjoyed all the nice treats and best of all, the visit with a newer member who I hadn't met yet. We found we had a lot in common and even had friends we shared. The Easter service was wonderful, and it was easy to see how much thought and love went into preparation. Thanks to Everyone and Love in Jesus' Name, *Gloria and Ronald Konkel*

**TODAY: Join Our Church Revitalization Book Study!** | Are you passionate about the future of our congregation? We invite you to join us for a powerful book study on *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* by Paul Nixon. This is a vital step in our church revitalization process, and your voice is needed.

**When:** We will gather for 90-minute sessions immediately following worship on: **April 26, May 3, May 17, May 24, and June 28**

**Who Should Attend?** While this is a crucial event for **church leaders**—including committee chairs, liaisons, and committee members—we strongly encourage **every member** of the congregation to participate. Whether you have held a leadership role for years or are brand new to our community, your perspective is invaluable.

**No Homework Required:** Even if you don't have time to read the book, *you are still welcome!* Come for the fellowship and forward-looking conversation.

We hope to see a full room as we dream and plan for our shared future! *Jim Wick*  
(The books cost the church \$18 each. If you would like to reimburse the church, please place your payment in an envelope marked "Dying Church book" and include it in the offering plate.)

**Donation Needed: Lawn Mower** | We are seeking a well-maintained, used lawn mower to help keep our grounds looking their best. If you have a reliable mower you no longer need and would like to donate, please contact the office, Jim Wick, or Julie Oren.

**Greeter Needed** | We are in need of volunteers to sign up to be Greeters in May. If you can help, please sign up on the Lenox Street bulletin boards. Thank you so much!

**Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogue | Wednesday, April 29** at 6pm

We will be hosting the next Interfaith Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogue. We will need to provide a soup and sandwich dinner for 35–40 people. If you would be willing to help provide food or serve, please let *Doris or Paul Mayeshiba* know (414-483-9600). The Interfaith team will present the program. We hope you will consider attending and be open to hearing how our neighbors experience the role of faith or spirituality in their lives. Church members who plan on attending, need to register here:

<https://www.interfaithconference.org/amazing-faiths-project>

**Rummage Sale | Saturday, May 16** from 8am–1pm | Christ Church is joining the Bay View Neighborhood Association Rummage Sale. Please continue to bring your donations and put them in the east end of the Music Room. Donation guidelines: “If you wouldn’t buy it, don’t donate it.” Please, NO electronics, TVs, hazardous materials, broken items, oversized furniture, or pianos (nope, no pianos :) See *Newsletter* for additional volunteer opportunities or contact Michael or Janet Key

**May Church Lunch Outing | Tuesday, May 19 at 11:30am** | All are WELCOME!

Restaurant: Lulu Cafe and Bar  
2265 S. Howell Avenue  
Milwaukee WI 53207  
Phone: 414-294-5858

This restaurant is a casual dining experience.

Please join us for lunch with your fellow Christ Church family members.

Conversation and company are always fun! If you are interested, please sign up at the Lenox Street door. Questions: feel free to ask anyone on the *Membership Committee*. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Offering Counters’ Meeting | Sunday, May 31**, immediately following church, there will be a meeting to cover changes to the counting & review procedures.  
Thanks, *Sue Cribb*

## From Which the Body Rises – An Earth Day Prayer

Rev. David Long-Higgins, Heartland Conference (OH) Minister



Holy One, Let me love your creation  
Not as an object to be used as careless throw-away  
But as the womb of life from which every body rises.

Let no river go unnoticed  
Falling victim to actions upstream with  
downstream consequences  
Too often visited on the vulnerable.

Let every molecule of air be honored for the life it carries  
In constant exchange from one body to another  
Binding all in indivisible necessity.

Let eating again be sacrament  
Savoring every energy You provide  
As abundant answer to every lie of scarcity  
Forming fear's fertile ground.

Yes, Love,  
Let today's precious pauses be prayers of wonder  
Cultivating the ground within  
And honoring the ground all around  
As the Holy place of Your creation  
From which every body rises.

Monthly Activity	March	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	\$13,498	\$46,725
Expenses	\$22,100	\$60,570
Budgeted Amount	\$18,051	\$54,155
<i>Last week's offering: \$2,962</i>		

### Christ Church UCC

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

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

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/christ\\_church\\_uccmke/](https://instagram.com/christ_church_uccmke/)

**Livestream:** [youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI](https://youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI)

If you should need pastoral support, please contact

**Pastor Bob** at 440-506-3258 or [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org)

