

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Creating God,  
We meant to hold on to the joy and hope and new life vibes of Easter.  
But war and rumors of war seem to have sucked all of that right out of us.  
Help us to live into what we claim to believe,  
That our hope and our joy rest firmly in the One who conquered death  
itself  
Bring us boldly into the abundant life you intend for us all.  
Amen.

-Rev. Anne Russ

PRELUDE

Prelude in G Major

J. S. Bach

BRINGING THE LIGHT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lucy Lanning

Lift your voices to God.

**We call on the One who promises to hear us.**

In life, in death, in every moment, God deals graciously with us.

**We rejoice in the One who saves us.**

We will break the Bread of life in thanksgiving to God.

**We will lift up the Cup of salvation, drinking deeply from it.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE

What Is This Place

Hymnal, No. 404

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**We cut you to the heart, Loving God,  
with the silly choices we make.  
We had hoped our lives would reflect your presence,  
but those around us can see how empty we are.  
We had hoped our words might bring healing,  
but they end up hurting those we love the most.  
We had hoped to find Jesus,  
but cannot see him in all those you send to us.**

**Oh, how foolish we are to think we can go on without your mercy, Lord  
God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,  
you judge us impartially from the depths of your heart,  
so we may be born anew by your grace,  
to continue the journey into your future. Amen.**

*(Time for silent reflection)*

This we know for certain - we are forgiven by our gracious God. This good news never ceases to astound us!



