

John Knox Presbyterian Church
April 26, 2026 4th Sunday of Easter



“We All Are One in Jesus” by Soichi Watanabe

Welcome! Please be seated and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

GATHERING INTO GOD’S PRESENCE

Prelude

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

William Marion Runyan
Arr. Melissa Terrall

Words of Welcome

*** Call to Worship**

*We gather together in the presence of our Shepherd God,
who calls us each by name,
who restores our souls,
who leads us in the way of righteousness,
and whose goodness and love never stops pursuing us.*

This is the God we have come to worship!

*** Hymn**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

#802

*** Call to Confession**

*** Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world,
you called us by name and pledged your steadfast love.
But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold.
You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves.
Christ laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down
our phones, our plans, our pride.
Forgive us, O God.**

* = Standing as able *Italics* = Leader **Bold** = People

**Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love
that we may enter your Beloved Community
and find restoration for our souls,
reconciliation with our enemies
and the glory of abiding with you forevermore.
Amen.**

*** Words of Forgiveness**

The proof God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead so that the gates of hell and heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed. So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life.

Alleluia! Amen!

*** Sung Response**

"Glory Be to the Father"

#581

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

NRSV

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.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Time with Our Young and Growing Ones

Gospel Reading

John 10: 1-10

NRSV

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers."

Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate.

Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Maggie Lewis

* **Hymn**

“Good Shepherd, We Are Not Alone”

Tune #254

Good Shepherd, We Are Not Alone

1-Good Shepherd, we are not alone,
For you protect and love your own.
And we, responding, know your voice;
We hear you calling and rejoice.

3-A thief may well destroy and steal,
But you, Good Shepherd, save and heal.
You lead your sheep to pasture land,
To life abundant, by your hand.

2-Another shepherd might turn back
And flee at danger's first attack;
But you laid down your very life —
A loving shepherd's sacrifice.

4-You gather sheep from far and wide —
From folds we know and from outside.
One flock, one Shepherd, there will be —
A loving, blest community.

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RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“He Leadeth Me”

William B. Bradbury

* **Sung Response**

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

#240 vss. 2 & 4

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Response: *Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

* **Sending Song**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

#187

* **Charge and Blessing**

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

Postlude

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

Robert Lowry

Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall after worship.

Liturgist: CJ High

Pianist: Melissa Terrall

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Bulletin image: *Commentary by Thomas Hastings, Executive Director, OMSC@PTS:*

This is “We All Are One in Jesus” by Soichi Watanabe, who is from Japan. He was the Artist in Residence at OMSC (Overseas Ministries Study Center, Princeton Theological Seminary) in 2008. He said this work is a reflection of his time at OMSC. He wrote, “Our life consisted of studying together, worshiping together, and praying together with

staff and participants from Asia and Africa. This picture was produced in gratitude for this grace.”

All One in Jesus. There are separate bodies, but they look so similar and they overlap. There are faces, and, differences exist between them, notably the faces are different colors, but they are also so similar in their lack of features.

Counting the number of figures, it could be Jesus and the disciples. It could be the Last Supper and this could be Jesus. Looking at it that way we realize we all look like Jesus, or Jesus looks like each of us.

One observation is that Watanabe minimized the particulars that can separate us from others to show we are all one people, regardless of where we come from. There is a sameness here, there is a union. We are one because all are all part of a common humanity. We are also one because we are at the table together, and the table encompasses us all. We are the body of Christ and members of one another.

For the rest of this reflection, see <https://omsc.ptsem.edu/all-one-in-jesus-by-soichi-watanabe/>

Church and Community Life

Have you considered becoming a member at John Knox? Want to know more about what Presbyterians believe? See Pastor Maggie in person or email, text, or call her. If enough folks are interested, we may put together a conversation time.

PEOPLE OF FAITH RISING TOGETHER IN SALEM

Friday, May 1st 10am - 12pm

St. Mark Lutheran Church

790 Marion St NE, Salem, Oregon

Communities across Oregon will gather at the Salem capitol under the leadership of PCUN (Oregon Farm Workers) and SEIU to demand an end to mass deportations and to stand in solidarity for workers' rights.

Enjoy light refreshments there before heading to the festival, rally, and march one block away.

More information:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hErloYdVH8413avV8HEp100RRmxiuexiE4uscHAonRo/edit?tab=t.o#heading=h.ervzgp17j03b>

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YARD CLEANUP OR MAINTENANCE? Contact Pastor Tomás for more information about hiring someone: 503-999-8125

APPOINTMENTS WITH MAGGIE are available any time via Zoom, phone, or in person. She is generally in Keizer on Thursdays (but not always!). Just let her know you'd like to visit and you can make plans that work for both of you.

HEARING CHALLENGED? The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop for people who appreciate a bit of assistance hearing more clearly, whether or not they use hearing aids. For more information on how to use the listening devices, see Eileen or CJ.

Looking Ahead

- May 1** **10:30 am** Mission Committee Meeting
 See Mary Jo for more information
- May 1** **11 am – 5 pm** – International Workers’ Day
 Oregon State Capitol
- May 3** **10:30** Worship – Fifth Sunday of Easter
 Holy Communion
- May 10** **10:30** Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter
 Mother’s Day
- May 11** **7:00** Administration Committee Zoom
- May 14-17** KeizerFest (Parade May 16)
- May 17** **10:30** Worship Seventh of Easter
- May 20** **7:00** Session meeting – Zoom
- May 24** **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
10:30 Worship – WEAR RED!!
11:30 Pentecost Pizza for social time
- May 31** **TRINITY SUNDAY –**
10:30 Worship – Mission focus

April Birthdays

1	Mike L.	17	Caleb R.
6	Carrie H.	18	Mark McK.
6	Pat McK.	21	Eileen S.
9	Melissa T.	26	Ezra R.
11	Judi L.	30	Andrea B.

Free Salem Community Chorus Concerts
Decades of Broadway
Monday, May 11 – 6:30 pm @ St. Mark Lutheran Church
Saturday, May 16 – 3:30 pm @ Oak Park Church of God
Monday, May 18 – 6:30 pm @ St. Mark Lutheran Church

JKPC March 2026 Financial Report

	Actual	Budget	Year to Date Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
INCOME					
Pledges	\$6,875	\$6,915	\$14,645	\$15,555	\$83,680
Offerings	1,332	417	2,637	1,250	5,000
Misc.	1,403	708	1,847	2,125	8,500
Christ Jar/CHP	80	100	231	300	1,200
Building Use	160	100	250	300	1,200
Per Capita	50	200	550	400	600
Food Bank Donations	150	150	400	450	1,800
Backpack B Donations	100	175	300	525	2,100
INC. TOTAL	\$10,150	\$8,765	\$20,860	\$20,905	\$104,080
EXPENSES					
TOTAL	\$7,129	\$6,536	\$37,369	\$35,789	\$114,375
PROFIT/ <LOSS>	\$3,021	\$2,229	<\$16,509>	<-14,884>	<\$10,295>
<i>Including Investment Income, unrealized loss/gain and fees</i>					
	<\$14,745>	\$2,229	<\$23,106>	<\$14,884>	<\$10,295>

March ended in the black \$3,021. The war against Iran caused market volatility and this is reflected in the 'actual' loss of \$14,745 (on paper). Quarterly giving statements have been either hand delivered or mailed. The faith-filled giving of members and friends means we are staying close to budget, thank you.

Session Notes

Session met on Wednesday, April 15 via Zoom. After opening with prayer, we began a discussion about the most effective organization of leadership with our current officers and responsibilities. No decisions were reached, and the conversation will continue. We heard a positive report from the treasurer. Lent and Easter went well. Eastertide worship will focus on lectionary passages. Mission Committee is meeting on May 1 to review plans and projects. Sheila is now the JKPC representative on the Keizer Community Food Bank Council. We adjourned with prayer to go forward in hope and love.

John Knox Presbyterian Church (USA)

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We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks. Copyrighted music is projected and recorded under One License #A-735693, CCL#3162413, or by permission of the author or publisher.

This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.