

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Welcome to the public worship of God on this Easter Sunday!*

*We gather for worship each Sunday at 11:00 am. All are welcome!*

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.*

*In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

APRIL 5, 2026 | 11:00 AM

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

CALL TO WORSHIP

MARK HUNTZINGER

Through God's miracle of grace, we have come through the night and arrived at this glorious dawn.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

All doors are open, all creation sings, all that was broken is made whole, and we have new life.

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord! Christ is Risen!**

\* HYMN No. 232

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

Gina Greeson, trumpet, and Ann Whitman, organ

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

The joy of this Easter Sunday reminds us of God's resurrecting power. Let us confess all that turns us toward death, so we can know the grace of new life through Christ.

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Savior God, forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment of others; the way we evaluate and compare. Forgive our death-dealing sins, our habits that demean and degrade, our addiction to violent and destructive behavior. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.**

\* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

"Jesus Christ is risen today. But the pains which he endured, our salvation have procured." In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Alleluia. Amen.**

\* ALLELUIA No. 240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (refrain only)* ALLELUIA NO. 1

\* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(From your place, share signs of peace with one another.)*

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word.*

ANTHEM | CHANCEL CHOIR

*In a Bulb There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

MOMENT FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

*K through 12th are invited to the new 302 Room for Youth Sunday School and Children's Worship.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MARK HUNTZINGER

Divine Redeemer, bearer of life, open us to the wisdom of your Word today and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from all that distracts and turns us from your path. Guide us and ground us in Christ's everlasting hope.

**Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Jeremiah 31: 1-6*

MARK HUNTZINGER

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Matthew 28: 1-10*

REV. RICK UPCHURCH

SERMON

*"Come, see... Then go quickly!"*

REV. RICK UPCHURCH

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Having heard God's life-giving Word, we are led to responses and expressions of our faith.*

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(Apostles' Creed found on page 35 of the hymnal)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* HYMN No. 238

*Thine Is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Sharing Joys and Concerns | Pastoral Prayer | The Lord's Prayer

**OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES**

*The gifts we share to support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church of Milford may be placed in the offering plates at the Sanctuary entrance. Gifts may also be given online at [www.fpcmilford.org](http://www.fpcmilford.org) or by using the QR code on the cards in your pew.*

**OFFERTORY**

*Theme From "New World Symphony"*

ANTONIN DVORAK

Alissandra Morrow and Dianne Deming, flutes, and Ann Whitman, piano

**SENDING FORTH WITH THE WORD**

*The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.*

\* CLOSING HYMN No. 233

*The Day of Resurrection!*

LANCASHIRE

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

\* **Congregation rise in body or in spirit | Congregational responses in bold**

**SOURCES AND CREDITS**

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*JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the reading was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were transcribed to paintings.*

**WORSHIP SERVICES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE:**

On our Facebook page, on YouTube, and on our website: [www.fpcmilford.org](http://www.fpcmilford.org).

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Kristin Williams, Colton Hunt, Colleen McCann, Nancy Gabel

**SPECIAL THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

Head Usher: Ken Naegeli | Liturgist: Mark Huntzinger

Videographer: Sarah Huntzinger/Mark Huntzinger

**NEXT WEEK:**

Dickie Burgess | Ken Naegeli | Sarah Huntzinger/Mark Huntzinger

***First Presbyterian Church of Milford***

101 S. Walnut Street | Milford, DE 19963 | 302.422.5701

# *First Presbyterian Church*

*Sharing God's Love with All from the Heart of Milford*



**EASTER SUNDAY**

*April 5, 2026*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **STAFF:**

Ann Whitman | Organist & Music Director  
Ruth Mikalonis | Interim Admin/Bookkeeper  
Rev. Rick Upchurch | Pastor

### **FOOD PANTRY:**

Please place items in basket at Front Doors

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES**

**TODAY: 04.05.26**

*Easter Sunday*

- Adult Sunday School | 9:30 am
- Worship | 11:00 am
- Youth/Children's SS | 11:15 am

### **MONDAY:**

- N. A. Meeting | 7:00 pm

### **TUESDAY:**

- Handbell Choir | 6:00 pm
- N. A. Meeting | 7:00 pm

### **WEDNESDAY:**

- **Breakfast at Westside** | 9:00 am  
*ALL ARE WELCOME!*
- MAH "A Seat at the Table" | 5-7:00 pm

**NEXT SUNDAY: 04.12.26**

*Second Sunday after Easter*

- Adult Sunday School | 9:30 am
- Worship | 11:00 am
- Youth/Children's SS | 11:15 am

### **PASTOR RICK'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Thursday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday is his Sabbath Day



### **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING**

For more than 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, educational, and opportunity. Please see the insert to learn more and for ways to contribute. **When we do a little, it adds up to a lot!**

### **CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCHOOL YEAR MAY, 2026 TO JUNE, 2027**

Scholarships from the Church for up to \$2,000 per school year are available for full- and part-time students enrolled in a four-year college or graduate school, a two-year community college, or a trade school. The school may be located anywhere in the United States. Academic classification can range from freshman through graduate school.

For School Year (SY) 2026-2027, the application period begins February 1, 2026, and applications must be received by May 1, 2026. Contact the Pastor for the application package. Award announcements will be made in June, 2026.

End of school year grades must be provided by July, 2027, and the SY 2026-2027 grades must average a C or better.

Payment of the scholarship will be made in July, 2027.