

The Falls Village Congregational Church
April 19, 2026, 10 a.m.
3rd Sunday of Easter
Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements
Ringing of the Bell
Prelude – *Gavotte* - J. S. Bach

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

***Call to Worship (Psalm 40)**

One: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

All: He drew me up from a desolate pit, out of the miry bog.

One: He set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

All: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

One: Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

All: May all who seek the Lord rejoice and be glad, singing 'Great is the Lord!'

***Opening Hymn #16 "Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing"**

Opening Prayer

Mysterious God, we come to this sanctuary to hear the Good News that stands beyond our understanding. Break through our doors to reveal your grace. Startle us beyond expectation. Amaze us beyond explanation. Reach out to us that we might draw closer to you to feel your love and to be transformed by your amazing grace. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We confess to you, Lord God of Easter, that behind confident smiles we are haunted by fear. While, to others, we appear certain and secure, in the night season we are confronted by an army of doubts. We confess that, rather than embrace a brave new Easter life, we

often choose to stay within the familiar deadness, isolated and unsure. Forgive us and do not forsake us when we decide for what is, rather than what might be, for death rather than resurrection. Amen.

Silent Confession

One: Lord in your mercy...

All: ...hear our prayer

Assurance of Pardon (repeat as guided)

By God's grace, you are created again.

In Christ, you are accepted, no matter what.

Through the Holy Spirit, you are freed to truly live.

Be at peace and know you are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri**

#35 in hymnal

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen. Amen.

***Passing the Peace of Christ:**

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(you are invited to offer Christ's peace to your neighbor)

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31
John 20: 24-31

Sherry Newman
Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall

Sermon: "The Twin"

Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Offertory – For Where Love Is, There is God - D. Wagner

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but

deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

***Closing Hymn: #546** “Amazing Grace”

***Benediction**

Benediction Response – *God Be with You till We Meet Again

(Forming a circle around the sanctuary, please sing)

*God be with you till we meet again; by His counsel guide, uphold you,
with His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.*

Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet.

Till we meet, till we meet again, God be with you till we meet again.

**You are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

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WELCOME: We welcome those who are visiting us today! We are grateful that you are here and encourage you to join us for a time of fellowship after worship in Miner Hall (the room through the door to the left of the pulpit). We would love to know you better. Please know that whomever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are always welcome here.

BIBLE STUDY: Please join us on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm in Miner Hall for a study on the Gospel According to Matthew. This week, we are taking a look at Matthew's chapters 3-7. All are invited.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: May 7th is the National Day of Prayer with the theme "Glorify God Among the Nations - Seeking Him in All Generations" (1 Chronicles 16:24). Falls Village will hold a local gathering at 12:00 noon on the town square. If you would like to help lead that service, please see Chuck Lewis. Please join us!

OFFERINGS: Any tithes, offerings, and/or prayer requests may be left in the plates at either entrance to the sanctuary.

Scripture Lessons for April 19, 2026

Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

John 20:24-29

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not

doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."