

The Falls Village Congregational Church  
April 26, 2026, 10 a.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall, Worship Leader

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Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude – *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* - T. Keesecker

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

\*Call to Worship (Psalm 121)

One: I lift my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?

All: *My help comes from the Lord, who made the heavens and the earth.*

One: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: *He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

One: The Lord is your keeper; the shade at your right hand.

All: *The Lord will keep our going out and our coming in, from this time on and forevermore.*

\*Opening Hymn #231 “Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us”

Opening Prayer

*God of the empty tomb, we rejoice in the Good News of Life beyond life. As we come together in this sanctuary in time, come closer. Wrap us in your love and warm us by your grace that we might hear your invitation from the tombs of uncertainty and fear into your future of light and hope and joy. Amen.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*We confess to you, Lord God, those parts of our lives that are hidden in the dark tomb, protected and dead. We choose to settle for less, unwilling to risk those promises that require us to take a stand, to carry the weight of love, and to walk in your light. We prefer to hunker down, make excuses, and blame others. Give us the faith and the hope to live into the freedom that only you provide. 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: Numbers 14:1-10

Ward Belcher

John 5:1-9a

Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall

Sermon: “From Waiting to Walking”

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

Offertory – *Total Praise* - Smallwood, Barrett & Rao

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: #622** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

**\*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.*



**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 8:1 - 10:42. All are invited.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:** May 7<sup>th</sup> 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 26, 2026*

### *Numbers 14:1-10*

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. <sup>2</sup> And all the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron; the whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! <sup>3</sup> Why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become plunder; would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?" <sup>4</sup> So they said to one another, "Let us choose a captain and go back to Egypt."

<sup>5</sup> Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the Israelites. <sup>6</sup> And Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes <sup>7</sup> and said to all the congregation of the Israelites, "The land that we went through as spies is an exceedingly good land. <sup>8</sup> If the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup> Only, do not rebel against the LORD, and do not fear the people of the land, for they are no more than bread for us; their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." <sup>10</sup> But the whole congregation threatened to stone them.

### *John 5:1-9a*

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. <sup>3</sup> In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. <sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" <sup>7</sup> The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." <sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup> At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.