

The Falls Village Congregational Church
April 5, 2026, 10 a.m., Easter Sunday
Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall, Worship Leader

Ringing of the Church Bell

Announcement of the Empty Tomb: Luke 24: 1-5

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

*Call to Worship

One: We gather for worship in joy and wonder.

All: *The tomb is empty; death is not the last word.*

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

All: *His steadfast love endures forever!*

One: The Lord is Risen!

All: *The Lord is risen indeed!*

*Hymn #216 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Prayer of Adoration (Unison)

God of the Resurrection, as you call us out of the darkness of heartbreak, despair, and fear, open our eyes to see the empty tomb, open our ears to hear your message, and open our hearts to encounter the Risen Christ among us. Amen.

Music Easter Carol, Choir (arr. P. Drennan)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we prefer the tombs of doubt and isolation. We overlook the poor and the hungry. We are indifferent to calls for peace. We turn away from giving and receiving forgiveness. As you raised Jesus from the dead, raise up into new life. Resurrect in us hope that outlasts despair, love that is stronger than fear, and life that is greater than death. Amen.

Silent Confession

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 the Risen Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

One: Let us extend that same peace to one another.

THE CHURCH HEARS GOD’S WORD

Scripture Jeremiah 31:31-34

Barry Fenstermacher

Matthew 28:1-10

Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall

Sermon “The Uprising”

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

Offertory The Lamb - E. Hagenberg

soloists: Linden Godshall and Rowena Fenstermacher

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

(celebrant continues 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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion

Prayer After Communion (Unison)

God of the Resurrection, we thank you for the celebration of the bread and wine and the ways that your love breaks us free from isolation, division, and fear. Easter us to leave our Good Friday fear and to go with joy to tell all disciples what has happened. Easter us to live our lives in hope, love and joy. And let us be Eastered! Amen.

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

*Hymn #218 "Thine is the Glory"

*Benediction

*Postlude: *God Be with You till We Meet Again*

*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.*

*Those willing and able are invited to stand.

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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.

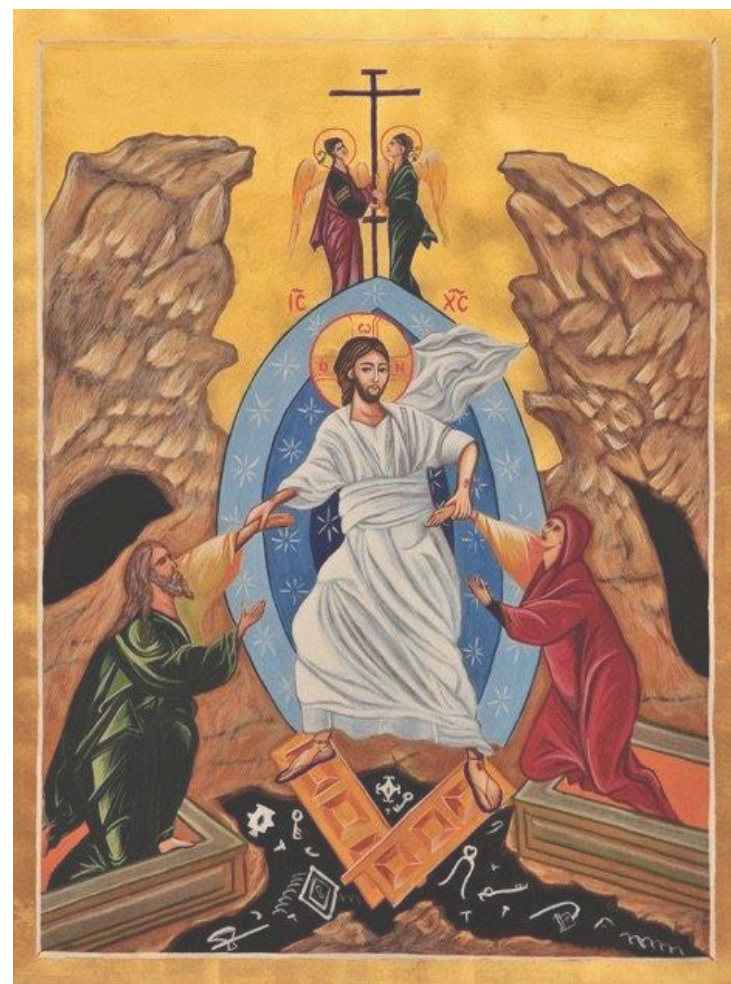
BIBLE STUDY: Please join us on Wednesdays (starting on April 15) at 1:30 pm in Miner Hall for a study on the Gospel According to Matthew. All are invited.

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

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

Falls Village Congregational Church



"He is Risen, Indeed!"

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

MATTHEW 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”