



Northwest Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship

Making Disciples ● Making Friends ● Making a Difference

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30AM

PRELUDE

“Whispering Hope”

Alex Hawthorne

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Anneke Woodward

Liturgist: The scriptures are full of stories of the life-giving and life-renewing power of God’s Spirit. Last week we celebrated God’s creation and the beginning of Genesis tells us, when God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while the Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

All: **The Gospel of John says,**
In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overtake it.

Pastor: That same Spirit who began creation through Christ, burned again with life-giving power when God’s people most needed it. Exodus tells us, when Moses led his flock to Horeb, the Mountain of God, the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush. God called to him, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.”

Then the Lord said, "I am the God of your father,
the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.
I have observed the misery of my people in Egypt.
I have heard their cry on account of their task masters.
I have come to deliver them and bring them to a new land.
Now go, I am sending you to bring my people out of Egypt.

Liturgist: When God's people were again in captivity,
this time in Babylon,
the prophet Ezekiel had a vision of God restoring his people
and giving them new life and a new future through his Spirit.
Ezekiel wrote that the hand of the Lord came upon him,
and the Spirit of the Lord set him down in a valley of dry bones.
The Lord said, "Mortal, can these bones live?"
Then the Lord spoke through Ezekiel, saying,
"O dry bones, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live."
Then the Lord spoke through Ezekiel to the Spirit, saying,
"Come from the four winds, O Spirit, O Breath,
And breath upon these slain, that they may live."

**All: When the time was fulfilled, this same Spirit of God
came upon Jesus at the Jordan, beginning a new creation.
The Gospel of Matthew says,
when Jesus came to John at the Jordan, John said,
"I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"
But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now,
for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.
When Jesus had been baptized,
just as he came up from the water,
suddenly the heavens were opened to him
and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove
and resting on him.
And a voice from the heavens said,
"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."**

Liturgist: Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested,
he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home
in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea,
across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles -
the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."
From that time Jesus began to proclaim,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,
Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother,
casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen.

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me,
and I will make you fishers of people."
Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
As he went from there, he saw two other brothers,
James son of Zebedee and his brother John,
in the boat with their father Zebedee,
mending their nets, and he called them.
Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him..

Pastor: Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues
and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom
and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.
So his fame spread throughout all Syria,
and they brought to him all the sick,
those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains,
people possessed by demons or having epilepsy
or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them.
And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis,
Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

* **HYMN OF PRAISE 23**

"God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"

* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

You are invited to share words and signs of greeting and reconciliation.

* **GLORIA Hymn 582**

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"The Life-Giving Spirit at Work – in Jesus' Ministry"

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

* **HYMN 156**

"Sing of God Made Manifest"

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostle's Creed*)

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Hail Thee Spirit Lord, Eternal"

Robert Wetzler

Hail thee, Spirit Lord eternal! Love omnipotent, supernal;
Honor meet to thee we render, Veneration deep and tender:
Hail thee, God the Holy Ghost!

Purest Spirit sanctifying Quickened souls, on grace relying;
Cleanse, renew thy creatures lowly,
Guide, inspire, and make us holy.

Lord to thee who all sustainest, God with Father, Son, who reignest,
Glory be from all creation, Worship, love, and adoration:
Hail thee, Lord the Holy Ghost!

* **SUNG RESPONSE**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD & THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

* **HYMN OF SERVICE 300**

"We Are One in the Spirit"

* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

"Das ist der Tag, den Gott gemacht"

Paul Fey

* Please stand as you are able.

*The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Syl Harris by Carroll and Travis Harris.*



Northwest Presbyterian Church

May 3, 2026

Weekly Schedule of Events

Sunday School—9:00am

Join us in the Session Room for coffee & donuts and lively discussions.

Sunday Worship—10:30am

In person & on YouTube.

Elder Appreciation Reception after Worship

Women's Bible Study—Wednesday at 9:30am

Meeting in the Conference Room and on Zoom.

Men's Bible Study—Wednesday at 10:00am

Meeting in the Youth Lodge and on Zoom.

Prayers

For those in need of healing:

Mary Anne Matthews
Laura Blackburn
Sean Amos
Nola Hawkinson
Jeff Upchurch
Lt. Col. Wes Likening and family
Lt. Col. Ben Smith and family

Jack Camp

Debby Fondell
John Bagwell
Darlene Kerscher
Jamie Kaplin
Mike Farria
Kathy Taulman Vaughan
Dee Dee Teel

For those in need of strength:

The people of Palestine & Israel
The people of Ukraine
Rev. Gamble & This Child Here
The Rev. Farouk Hammo &
Baghdad Presbyterian Church

If you would like to place a name on the prayer list, we invite you to contact the church office at admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org or call 404-237-5539.

If you have already shared a prayer request, we kindly ask that you keep us informed with any updates by reaching out to Lynne Schlosberg at lynnesc@comcast.net or by contacting the church office.

May Birthdays

2nd Adelaide Martinez
7th Harriett Kelly
8th Windsor Dombrow
9th Carroll Harris
11th Laura Moyer
Jennifer Fortune

14th Penn McClatchey
17th Rebecca Holderread
21st Larry Wilkerson
23rd Carol Caldwell
Veronica Glass
26th Hal Gill

Northwest Youth

May 2 - May 3: Lake House trip to Lake Burton.
Contact AJ for details.

May 10: Break for Mother's Day

May 17: End of school year celebration TBD

An up-to-date schedule of activities is always available at www.northwestpresbyterianchurch.org/northwest-youth.
Contact AJ at aj@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org

52 Club - Support Northwest Youth Mission

Please support the mission outreach of the Northwest Youth by donating \$1 per week, or \$52 annually, designated for the "52 Club." Even with this small individual amount, if everyone contributes our youth can do amazing things in our community!

Upcoming Northwest Events

May 3: Sunday School
Elder Ordination & Installation
Elder Appreciation Reception

May 10: Sunday School

May 17: Sunday School
Session Meeting

May 31: Church Cookout after Worship

Scan this QR code with your cellphone to access our eGiving page or visit <https://tinyurl.com/4dbm2kp3>.



Children's Ministry Nursery Childcare

Nursery care is provided in Room 1 of the Children's Building, and is available from 9:00-11:45am, or at the conclusion of any after-church event. Children who are newborn through age 4 are welcome. Parents, please bring diapers, a change of clothes, and any medications or other needed items. Please do not bring food containing nuts.

Young Children & Worship

Following the Time with Young Disciples during worship, children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow Maryam Sanders and an adult volunteer* upstairs to the Upper Room above the Narthex. Children will engage in a simplified and age-appropriate order of worship that includes liturgical greetings, songs of praise, and a sensorimotor style of storytelling that follows the Bible passages of the church year calendar. On communion Sundays, children will rejoin their parents for the communion portion of the service. Other Sundays, please pick up your children upstairs after the service.

*Adult volunteers needed. If interested, please contact Laura Blackburn or Maryam Sanders.

Men's Bible Study

The Men of Northwest meets on Wednesdays at 10am in the Youth Lodge and on Zoom. We engage in rich discussion that revolves around the Bible, spirituality, and contemporary life.



Get ready for an unforgettable adventure at Northwest's Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS 2026 June 22-26 9am-12noon!

Kids will step into a fun-filled winter sports world where they'll take on exciting challenges, enjoy games and surprises, and grow in faith alongside

new friends. Through engaging Bible stories and hands-on activities, children will discover that **"I can do all things through him who strengthens me"** (Philippians 4:13). As they learn and play, they will come to realize that with the strength God provides, they can share their gifts, be brave, give their all, pray, and hope.

Join us for a week of laughter, learning, and faith.

Sign up today!

Participants & Volunteers Register with the QR code or at <https://myvbs.org/npc-vbs26>



Adult Spiritual Formation Groups Sunday School during Easter



In Sunday School for the Sundays from Easter to Pentecost, we will be looking at the short book "Alleluia is Our Song", a collection of reflections by Michael Mayne, the previous dean of Westminster Abbey. You are welcome to purchase a copy ahead of time, or just come and participate in the discussions. We will talk about what our belief in Easter, the resurrection, and the continued life-renewing presence of the risen Lord mean for how we approach life and the world around us. As always, donuts and coffee are provided.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the office conference room and on Zoom. On February 4, we began a new discussion. Reading and discussing *"Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus"* by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg. available at: <https://tinyurl.com/yc4phxp6> *"Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus takes you on an in-depth tour of the Jewish world of Jesus, offering inspirational insights that will transform your faith. Spangler and Tverberg paint powerful scenes from Jesus' ministry, immersing you in the prayers, feasts, history, culture, and customs that shaped Jesus and those who followed him."* (Amazon)

The Bible study group welcomes new members to join them - in person or on Zoom.

Come and enjoy fellowship and learning.

Be A Greeter



Be the first to say hello to friends and greet visitors arriving for worship. Greeters play an important part in welcoming newcomers and helping them get to where they need to be. Reserve your spot on SignUp Genius using the QR Code.

For more information contact a member of the Worship Team: Harriett Kelly, Rob Rankin, or Jeff Upchurch.

Sanctuary Flowers

Celebrate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, memorial, or any special occasion with a beautiful gift of flowers. Each week offers an opportunity to give thanks or remember someone dear by adorning our worship space with a floral dedication. To reserve your dedication, please call 404-237-5539 or email admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org.

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, **we welcome you to Northwest**, with the hope that this service of worship will be for you an experience of real communion with God and God's children. If you have not found a church home in Atlanta, we hope you will consider joining with us in worship, study, fellowship, and service. There is a place for you here in which you can both give and receive. ***Come join us!***

The Ministers

All of the Members of the Northwest Presbyterian Congregation

The Session

Class of 2026

Jason Amos, *E*
Betty Bates, *Ca*
Craig Camp, *M*
Brian Moye, *C*

C=Connections
W=Worship

Class of 2027

Laura Blackburn, *E*
Cathy Ealick, *M*
Harriett Kelly, *W*
Rob Rankin, *W*

E=Education
Ca=Congregational Care

Class of 2028

Carroll Harris, *S*
Curt Thompson, *C*
Jeff Upchurch, *W*
Anneke Woodward, *S*

S=Stewardship
M=Mission

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Alex Moses
Clerk: Ezra Jones
Treasurer: Karen Taylor

The Staff

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses, Pastor
Rev. A.J. Shortley, Director of Youth & Mission
Dr. Clinton Smith, Director of Music & Organist
Scott Mize, Director of Operations

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Northwest Presbyterian Church
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