



# Northwest Presbyterian Church

## Service of Worship

Making Disciples ● Making Friends ● Making a Difference

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

10:30AM

**PRELUDE**

*“Brethren, We have met to worship”*

arr. Joel Raney

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 116, and 116A in Psalms for All Seasons)

Jennifer Moses

*One:* I love the Lord,  
because he has heard my voice and my supplications.  
Because he inclined his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.

*All:* **It may feel like death has hold of me.  
I may suffer distress and anguish.  
But then I will call on the name of the Lord:  
O Lord, I pray, save my life!**

*Cantor:* Our God is gracious, merciful, and just,  
who watches over all the simple hearted.  
Rest, O my soul, and trust God for salvation.  
Remember all the goodness shown to you.

*One:* I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.  
Even when I am in distress, I will hold onto my faith.

*All:* **What shall I return to the Lord for all of his goodness to me?  
I will sing praises to the Lord in the presence of his people.**

*Cantor:* How can I pay you, Lord, for all your gifts?  
I will lift up the cup of full salvation.  
I will fulfill my vows to you, my Savior.  
With all your saints, I'll call upon your name.

\* **HYMN OF PRAISE 231**

*“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”*

\* **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.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 24:13-35

Pew Bible, pg. 90 NT

*One:* The Word of the Lord.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

\* **HYMN** 252 (to tune BUNESSAN – Morning Has Broken)

*“Day of Arising”*

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON**

“An Unexpected Encounter”

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from the Study Catechism of the PCUSA*)

*One:* What do you affirm when you say that Jesus was “crucified, dead and buried”?

***All:* That when our Lord passed through the door  
of real human death,  
he showed us that there is no sorrow he has not known,  
no grief he has not borne,  
and no price he was unwilling to pay  
in order to reconcile us to God.**

*One:* What do you affirm when you say that “on the third day he rose again from the dead”?

***All:* That our Lord could not be held by the power of death.  
Having died on the cross, he appeared to his followers,  
triumphant from the grave, in a new, exalted kind of life.  
In showing them his hands and his feet,  
the one who was crucified revealed himself to them  
as the Lord and Savior of the world.**

*One:* What do you affirm when you say that “he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father”?

*All:* **First, that Christ has gone to be with the Father,  
hidden except to the eyes of faith.  
Second, however, that Christ is not cut off from us  
in the remote past,  
or in some place from which he cannot reach us,  
but is present to us here and now by grace.  
He reigns with divine authority, protecting us, guiding us,  
and interceding for us until he returns in glory.**

## **PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

*“Because He Lives”*

Bill & Gloria Gaither

\* **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 & 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 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.**

\* **HYMN OF SERVICE 238**

*“Thine Is the Glory”*

\* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*“Toccata Thine is the Glory”*

arr. Gordon Young

\* Please stand as you are able.

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*The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Virginia Jones by Anna and Ezra Jones.*

# 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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<https://tinyurl.com/4dbm2kp3>.



**Northwest Presbyterian Church**  
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404-237-5539 • [northwestpresbyterianchurch.org](http://northwestpresbyterianchurch.org)





# Northwest Presbyterian Church

April 19, 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.

### Northwest Youth—11:30am

Lunch, Fun, Spiritual Formation. Contact AJ for more details.

### Choir Rehearsal 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.

**Northwest's Annual Church Picnic** is being held in the courtyard right after our outdoor worship on **April 26**. Box lunches will be awaiting everyone who signs up—with hiking at Paces Mill Park after lunch. So dress casually... and sign up in the Narthex—we don't want to run out of lunches!

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:lynnesc@comcast.net) or by contacting the church office.*

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 19, 2026 immediately following worship for the purpose of receiving the Elder Nominating Committee report and electing the new class of elders.

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.

## 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.***

## 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.

## 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. Here is an excerpt from the first chapter:

The evidence of the resurrection – where do we look for that? In the pages of the New Testament? Yes, but only if we understand that there was no New Testament until after the experience of Easter, so the fact that we have this book – the Gospels and the letters of St Paul – these are in themselves evidence of what happened on the first Easter day. This is the book of the resurrection, for there would have been no story to tell except in the light of Easter. We are the Church of the resurrection, which would not exist were it not for Easter. We call the Friday before Easter 'Good', we see the cross as a victory and we continue to meet for the breaking of bread, only because those first disciples could say, 'We have seen the Lord,' and believed they were living in the first days of a new creation.

In the end the evidence for the resurrection is overpowering, but it's not in the words of the Bible. It's in the lives of countless people who have had faith that this is true. They haven't seen the Lord as Peter and John and Thomas did, but they have seen in the sense that they go out in love and trust beyond where reason and knowledge can take them, and they find the living Christ and their lives are changed. And I can only bear witness on Easter Day that I am a Christian because I believe in the power of the living God. I believe he has called me out of nothingness into life, and that he has the power to call me out of death into new life. And most of all I believe that when we Christians meet together to read the gospel story and to break bread in the Eucharist, it is not to honor a good man dead these two thousand years but to celebrate the presence in our midst of our risen Lord.

As always, donuts and coffee are provided.

## Submit Announcements to [admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org)

\*Submissions are due by noon on Thursday the week before publication of the newsletters. Submissions received after the deadline will be included in the following week's publications.

## April Birthdays

17th Laura Blackburn  
19th Addison Moses  
20th Harper Glass  
22nd Ed Milton  
23rd Warren Wick

## May Birthdays

2nd Adelaide Martinez  
7th Harriett Kelly  
8th Windsor Dombrow  
9th Carroll Harris  
11th Laura Moye  
Jennifer Fortune  
14th Penn McClatchey  
17th Rebecca Holderread  
21st Larry Wilkerson  
23rd Carol Caldwell  
Veronica Glass  
26th Hal Gill

## Northwest Youth

**April 19:** Regular Youth fellowship  
WITH Special Guests and a fun project!

**April 26:** Special guest preacher and picnic and hike at  
Paces Mill Park after church.

An up-to-date schedule of activities is always available at  
[www.northwestpresbyterianchurch.org/northwest-youth](http://www.northwestpresbyterianchurch.org/northwest-youth).  
Contact AJ at [aj@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:aj@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org)



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>**



## Upcoming Northwest Events

**April 19:** Sunday School  
Congregational Meeting after Worship  
Session Meeting

**April 26:** Sunday School  
Outdoor Worship with Guest Speaker Dr. Bill Brown  
Congregational Picnic & Hike at Paces Mill Park

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

**May 10:** Sunday School

**May 17:** Sunday School  
Session Meeting

## 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!

## 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](mailto:admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org).

*Because He Lives*

Bill & Gloria Gaither

God Sent His Son, They Called Him Jesus;  
He Came To Love, Heal And Forgive.  
He Lived And Died To Buy My Pardon;  
An Empty Grave Is There To Prove My Savior Lives.

*Chorus:*

Because He Lives  
I Can Face Tomorrow  
Because He Lives  
All Fear Is Gone  
Because I Know He Holds The Future  
And Life Is Worth The Living  
Just Because He Lives

How Sweet To Hold A Newborn Baby,  
And Feel The Pride And Joy He Gives;  
But Greater Still The Calm Assurance:  
This Child Can Face Uncertain Day Because He Lives.

Chorus

And Then One Day I'll Cross The River;  
I'll Fight Life's Final War With Pain.  
And Then, As Death Gives Way To Vict'ry,  
I'll See The Lights Of Glory And I'll Know He Reigns.

Chorus