

LIVING STONE WORSHIP

† Fourth Sunday of Easter †

Sunday, April 26, 2026 at 10:45 a.m.

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Prayer Before Worship

O God, Your Son is the Shepherd of Your people. Grant that, when we hear His call, we will know His voice and follow where He leads; who, with You and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Announcements & Greeting

Call to Worship

Psalm 23

- L The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
C **He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**
L He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
C **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**
L I will fear no evil, for you are with me.
C **Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
L You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
ALL **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.**

Opening Song

“Reckless Love”

Verse 1

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me.
You have been so, so good to me.
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me.
You have been so, so kind to me.

Chorus

O, the overwhelming, never-ending,
Reckless Love of God.
O, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found,
Leaves the ninety-nine.
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it,
Still You give Yourself away.
O, the overwhelming, never-ending,
Reckless Love of God. Yeah!

Verse 2

When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me.
You have been so, so good to me.
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me.
You have been so, so kind to me,

Chorus

Bridge

There's no shadow You won't light up,
Mountain You won't climb up,
Coming after me.
There's no wall You won't kick down,
Lie You won't tear down,
Coming after me. (repeat)

Chorus

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Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

- P Let us pray.
Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- C **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:42–47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:19–25

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 10:1–10

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what He was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Song of the Day

“I Will Follow”

Where You go, I'll go;
Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move; I will follow.

Verse 1

All Your ways are good,
All Your ways are sure;
I will trust in You alone.
Higher than my sight,
High above my life;
I will trust in You alone.

Chorus

Where You go, I'll go;
Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move; I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love;
How You serve, I'll serve;
If this life I lose, I will follow You.
I will follow You.

Verse 2

Light into the world,
Light into my life,
I will live for You alone.
You're the One I seek,
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone.
In You alone.

Chorus

Bridge

In You, there's life everlasting.
In You, there's freedom for my soul.
In You, there's joy, unending joy.
And I will follow.

Chorus (2x)

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Sermon

“The Flock That Follows”

1 Peter 2:19–25

Apostles' Creed

- C** 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ☩ life everlasting. Amen.

Children's Message

Offering

The offertory is an important time to reflect with thanksgiving on the many blessings God has given us.

Offertory

“King of Kings”

1 In the darkness we were waiting,
without hope, without light,
Till from Heaven You came running.
There was mercy in Your eyes.
To fulfil the law and prophets,
to a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
to a cradle in the dirt.

Chorus

Praise the Father, Praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory, Majesty,
Praise forever to the King of Kings.

2 To reveal the kingdom coming
and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross.
For even in Your suffering,
You saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus, for our sake You died.

Chorus

3 And the morning that You rose
all of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good,
for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs,
and the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored.

4 And the Church of Christ was born,
then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this Gospel truth of old
shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By His blood and in His Name,
in His freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me.

Chorus

Praise the Father, Praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory, Majesty,
Praise forever to the King of Kings.
Praise forever to the King of Kings.

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Prayer of the Church

✠ Thanksgiving for the 19th wedding anniversary of Cal and Sonja Stemme (April 25).

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Confession of Sins and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19–23*

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

Mark 14:22-24

"Peace of the Lord"

John 20:19

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei – "Lamb of God"

- C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

John 1:29

Distribution

Song

"Graves into Gardens"

Verse 1

**I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me.
Man's empty praise, and treasures that fade
Are never enough.
Then You came along and put me back together,
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love.**

Chorus

**Oh there's nothing better than You.
There's nothing better than You.
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You.**

Verse 2

**I'm not afraid to show You my weakness.
My failures and flaws, Lord, You've seen them all,
And You still call me friend.
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley.
There's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again.**

Chorus 2x

Bridge 1

**You turn mourning to dancing,
You give beauty for ashes.
You turn shame into glory,
You're the only one who can. repeat**

Bridge 2

**You turn graves into gardens,
You turn bones into armies.
You turn seas into highways,
You're the only one who can.**

Chorus 2x

Bridge 2

“Behold the Lamb”

- 1 Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us: and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.
- 2 The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
Torn for you: eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
Paid the price to make us one.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.
- 3 The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin,
Shed for you: drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So, we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.
- 4 And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n
Around the table of the King.

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Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.
- C **Amen.**

Post-Communion Collect

- P Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C **Amen.**

Numbers 6:24–26

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Closing Song

“Can’t Steal My Joy”

Verse 1

In the valley of the shadow,
I got a feeling it's a season that'll make me grow.
I'm still breathing, I got praise in my lungs
And a choir in my soul.

Chorus 1

Can't steal my joy.
Can't steal my joy.
What the world couldn't give,
no, it can't take away.
Sorrow may come, but it can't steal my joy.
Can't steal my joy.

Verse 2

In the high highs, in the low lows,
You fill my cup, You fill it up until it overflows.
I remember, I'll keep holding on to hope,
'Cause You're the king of rolling stones.

Chorus

Post-Chorus 1

Can't steal my joy
(Wa oh, oh, oh.) 3x
Can't steal my joy.
(Wa oh, oh, oh.) 3x

Bridge

Can't steal my joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart, down in my soul,
deep in my bones. I got the joy, joy, joy.
I can't contain, nothing can quiet my praise.
I got the joy, joy, joy. Down in my heart,
down in my soul, deep in my bones.
I got the joy, joy, joy. I can't contain,
nothing can quiet my praise.

Can't steal my joy. Can't steal my joy.

Chorus

Can't steal my joy.
(Wa oh, oh, oh.) 3x
(Wa oh, oh, oh.) 3x
Can't steal my joy.

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+ + +

Preacher
Presiding Minister
Instrumentalists

Pastor Wade
Pastor Schudde
Whitney Wade, guitar
Savannah Richards, piano
Mark Stoddard, bass
Darren Meyer, percussion
Whitney Wade, Cory Ahlbrand, Amy Maender, vocals
Ries Hoover

Sound

Acknowledgments

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