



Easter 2

April 12, 2026

Join Us on Zoom!



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Meeting ID: 839 2872 7469 Password: 890967



1. Call **1-312-626-6799**.
2. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469 #**.
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*Cultivating a community for all to belong,
rooted in Jesus' way of love and justice.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*SONG

"Don't Be Afraid"

Don't be a-fraid. My love is strong-er, my love is strong-er

than your fear. Don't be a-fraid. My love is strong-er

and I have prom-ised, prom-ised to be al - ways near.

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*GOSPEL READING

John 20:19–31

*HYMN 238

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

READING

Psalms 16

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

"Ubi caritas"

Words: Traditional Latin; Music: Maurice Duruflé

Translation:

*Where true charity and love dwell, God is there.
Since the love of Christ has joined us in one body,
let us all rejoice and be glad now and always.
And as we hear and love the living God,
So let us in sincerity love all people.*

SERMON

"The Peace of Christ Be With You" by Richard Lanford

*HYMN

"Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers" (song sheet)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A commonly used form is printed here. You are welcome to use any version meaningful to you.

Our God, 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.

REPARATIONS MOMENT

OFFERING

In addition to financial offerings, we invite you to offer your response to this question on the small piece of paper: Amid the groanings of this time, how do you show up to embody hope?

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. April's special offering supports One Great Hour of Sharing. [Give Online](#)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Alleluia"

Music: Randall Thompson

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Never Ending Joy" (song sheet)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Risen One, amid our fear and doubt, we receive your gift of peace. We will go where you send us, tending the wounds of creation and bearing witness to your good news of new life.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN 231

"Because You Live, O Christ"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please join us for coffee, food, and fellowship in the Gathering Hall following the postlude.

Thanks to those who are taking part in worship today.

Valet..... George Domstrand
UshersDon Brasted-Maki, Mary Jean Korsmo
Reader Cynthia Hendricks
Tech Support Tim Danz, Maggie George
Coffee Hour..... Art Team
FlowersKris Felbeck

After Worship Today

Artist Reception: Melissa Loop. Melissa Loop, photographer and painter, is exhibiting her work at First Gallery this spring. After worship Melissa welcomes your questions and comments about her beautiful and provocative art. She aspires to create nostalgic altars for what we are losing in this age of rapid climate change.

Democracy in Action Bridge Brigade. Grab your coffee and your protest sign (and a chair if that would be helpful) and join us on the pedestrian bridge over I-35 next to the church to embody hope and resist authoritarianism.

Family Gathering. On the second and fourth Sundays each month*, kids and their grownups gather in the play room downstairs after the worship service. We share a Bible story, make a craft or other story response, engage in lots of free play, eat many snacks, and build beloved community together. (*Please note that Peeps Bible Stories will replace regular Family Gathering on April 26.)

Stories@First Vol. 5. Join us at 2:00 p.m. for a story slam event about failure. Come to hear a story. Come to tell a story. Come to build and to be in community. Snacks and conversation will follow the story telling.

Coming Up

Peeps Bible Stories. Mark your calendars for our next all-ages event—Bible stories with Peeps—on Sunday, April 26 after worship. We provide the Peeps and the craft supplies, you provide the creativity (and maybe some competitive spirit?) as we collaborate to recreate our favorite Bible stories using brightly colored marshmallow critters. If you're interested in planning this event or hosting a table, please [reach out to Sarah Almén](#) (512-809-9788).

New Members. We will welcome new members next Sunday, April 19. If you are interested in joining the church, please [reach out to Pastor Jane](#).

Pride 2026. First Church will have a joyful presence at the Twin Cities Pride Festival again this summer and we need your help! In addition to the cost of having a booth, we plan to purchase a banner with our new mission statement, and small branded gifts to hand out to attendees. If you have money you would like to contribute to this specific endeavor, [please donate](#) with "Pride 2026" on the memo line/in the notes.

If you have time and would like to help staff the booth for a shift or two, mark your calendar for June 27 and 28, and look for instructions to sign up later this spring! If you have any questions, [contact Hannah Logan](#).

It Can't Happen Here... Again! Theatre De Facto will be doing a reading of a play based on Sinclair Lewis's dystopian political novel *It Can't Happen Here* at First Church on Sunday, April 26, at 2:00 p.m. The reading is free to attend and will support and inspire those fighting against the threat of fascism.

Week of April 13–19

You can find links for Zoom meetings on our website: firstchurchmn.org

MON (4/13)	9:30 AM	Southeast Play Group	Basement
	noon	Elder Gathering	Zoom
	6:30 PM	Faith Formation Team	Zoom
TUE (4/14)	noon	Bible Study	Library / Zoom
WED (4/15)	3:00 PM	Indigenous Study Group	Library / Zoom
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
THU (4/16)	9:30 AM	Southeast Play Group	Basement
	7:00 PM	FCC Board	Zoom
SUN (4/19)	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 AM	Coffee Hour	Gathering Hall
	10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary / Zoom
	11:00 AM	Coffee Hour	Gathering Hall
	11:15 AM	Democracy in Action: Bridge Brigade	I-35W Ped. Bridge

Regular Gatherings

Elder Gathering—Monday, April 13 (noon on Zoom)

Bible Study—Tuesday, April 14 (noon—Zoom option available)

Indigenous Study Group—Wednesday, April 15 (3:00 p.m.—Zoom option available)

Evening Handcraft Group—Monday, April 20 (7:00 p.m. @ Ruth Lemire's Home)

Spanish Conversation Group—Saturday, April 25 (10:00 a.m. @ HarMar Mall Barnes & Noble (Roseville))

Craft Group—Wednesday, May 6 (11:00 a.m.)

Family Gathering—Sunday, May 10 (11:30 a.m.)

Get Connected

Weekly Email. You can [sign up to receive all the news](#) on Thursday afternoons, as well as other important updates.

Online & Text Giving. [Give Online](#) You can also give by texting 612-999-1236: **\$10** will give \$10 to the general offering; **\$10 special** will give \$10 to the monthly special offering.

Democracy in Action Signal Group. Join our Democracy In Action group on Signal if you would like to connect with others in the church about opportunities to show up to protest and resist. [Join Signal Group](#)

Worship Volunteers. Can you lend a hand in worship as a reader or usher? Are you a coffee hour virtuoso? [Sign Up to Help in Worship](#)

Helping for the first time? [Joy Gullikson](#) can help you get oriented.

Join our signal chat, sign up for the weekly email and more: [Get Connected](#)

Wherever you are on life's journey, let us walk with you . . .

Pastor Jane's typical work week is Sunday through Thursday. Please call or email her to set up appointments as she is in and out of the office. She hopes you will contact her for support and prayer in times of illness, hospitalization, or crisis. If your need is urgent, you may call or text her cell phone at any time of the week.

To aid in worship, assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.

We welcome you to visit the remembrance area at any time during worship. At the back of the sanctuary there is table with journals that can be utilized to write or draw your remembrances in memory of a loved one. You can also light a candle on the columbarium.

Children are most welcome in worship at First Church. Families are invited to use the kids' corner in the front of the Sanctuary during worship. We are working to become an inclusive community that welcomes people of all abilities within all church spaces. If you have questions or comments about sharing our worship service with those of differing abilities, please speak to Jane McBride.

Valet parking is available every Sunday for those who find it difficult to navigate the walk from a parking spot to the church. Valets will meet you at the 8th Ave. entrance, assist you in getting inside and park your car for you (and get it for you after the service). If the valet sign is posted and you don't see a parker, please wait for them to return.

April's Special Offering supports One Great Hour of Sharing, an ecumenical tradition of collecting funds for disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development aid that dates back to World War II. It is one of four special offerings of the United Church of Christ.

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First Congregational Church of Minnesota, UCC

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firstchurchmn.org

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