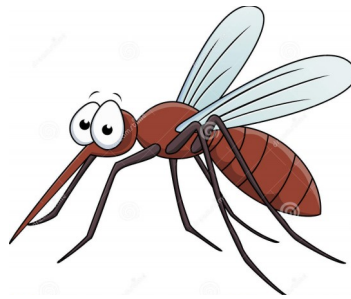


Sunday  
**April 18, 2021**  
10:00 a.m.

## *Third Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Greg

Becoming disciples,  
serving God's world.



### **Gathering**

**Visual Psalter:** "I Rest in Peace"

*A Psalm 4 prayer*

### **Opening Prayer** — from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Hymn:** #577 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

*With regrets we ask the congregation to refrain from singing for reasons of health and safety. Please hum or sing in your hearts to the Lord.*

**Scripture:** Luke 24:36b-48

**Sermon:** "The Wavelength of Love"

**Hymn:** #2149 "Living for Jesus"

### **Congregational Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer**

Living God, who breathes life into all things, it is in you we live and move and have our being. After a long Lenten season, we thank you for life all around us. Let spring be a witness to resurrection, not as occasional, but as the way you have ordered our lives and world.

As creation bears witness to the creator, draw our attention to how to care for the earth in the face of climate change and ecological distress. We pray for those who are affected by the earth's destruction in land displacement, environmental racism, and lack of clean water. We pray for repentance and change of behavior for those who would see the earth and its resources as disposable for their profit, and we pray for ourselves as we are complicit in this attitude. Renew our minds and hearts so we can participate in creation care as you would desire.

Lord Jesus, we ask that we would not forget what and who you are inviting us to see in Easter. Even in the midst of celebrating resurrection, we pray for those whose celebration is clouded by their circumstances. We pray for the scared and lonely. We pray for those anxious and impatient waiting for vaccine appointments. We pray for compassion for the poor, people dealing with food scarcity, for all who are disregarded



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**Office Hours:**  
Tues. and Wed.  
9:00-1:00

and overlooked. We continue to pray for comfort, healing and protection for the sick and those vulnerable to sickness as we go through yet another COVID surge. We pray for hospitals and medical personnel. We pray for families who are grieving. Show us how to abide with their grieving and not rush the process. Let us all cry out to you, our Savior.

Lord, we read in the Bible that you welcomed people in their doubts. We know you welcome us in ours, too. You said, "You are the witnesses for all this" — a curious statement. Give us peace and assurance, despite our wandering hearts and minds.

We lift up all these prayers and so much more....

All this, and that in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying —

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

**Offertory** ~ Barb Hosner and Karla Stubblefield

**Dedication of Gifts and Self** — based on Luke 24:36b-48

*Thank you so very much for your love, prayers, and financial support!*

Forgiving Father, we faithfully give witness to your work in this world by sharing these gifts and offerings. You shared your Son, Jesus, so that we may repent of our sins and be saved. Thank you for providing us with the example of how to place courageously your call of discipleship into action. We pray that we may live each day according to your holy ways. In the name of the Great Teacher, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

**Hymn:** #600 "Wonderful Words of Life"

**Benediction:** "Death Is Only the Beginning" ~ by Kelly Ann Hall

Breathe.  
Orient to my voice.  
Blink.

Hold on... Blink again.

Open your eyes and tell me what you see.

Do you remember me?

Your perspective has changed, take a moment.

The lens of the Spirit is compassion and grace,

Can you see it?

Do you feel it?

Go slow. It's just you and me, and we have nothing but time.

Take a moment to center on your heart, it is completely unfolded, wide open.

All the emotions from the journey can catch up to you all at once — there's a lot to feel.

Take yourself in, you are still you, just different.

I have sealed your wounds but left your scars, because everything in your life has mattered, remember, but don't dwell on the past.

Take my shirt, and here, have my coat as well.

I am sure you are hungry, so have a seat, I will bring your plate.

Here's your cup, full of wine — there is plenty.

I am about to send you out, are you ready?

You should know, the world has not changed. It knows no difference in you today from you yesterday.

In fact, they will try to identify you by the marks of your old ways, and hold you to the mythology of your former life.

They will look at you sideways, they will wonder what they see, they may even ask you who you think you are, but I know exactly who you are.

So rise up, my Hope,  
and carry the message:

I AM still alive and well in the world, active and fully present.

Death is only the beginning.

In the name of the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit — One God, now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Postlude**

The offertory prayer is copyrighted © 2021 by David S. Bell, United Methodist Foundation of Michigan.

## Prayer for Family and Friends

### Previous Requests

Pray for every family undergoing difficulties.  
Pray for persecuted Christians around the world.

## This Week's Celebrations

### Birthdays

4/18 Becky Berndt  
4/20 Annelore Canniz-  
zaro  
4/20 Lee Philport  
4/22 Julie Taylor  
4/23 Todd Griffin

### Anniversaries

4/18 Michael & Lori  
Tichvon  
4/20 Paul & Marilyn  
Schutter

## VUMC's Mission Statement



## The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ  
in the world, and to follow  
his teachings through acts  
of compassion, justice,  
worship and devotion  
under the guidance of the  
Holy Spirit.

## Happy Anniversary

Paul and Marilyn Schutter will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Tuesday. We celebrate with them and thank God for his blessings.

## Midweek prayer meeting

To join the online prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings from 8:00 to 8:30, please click this link: [meet.google.com/hii-yaux-qgs](https://meet.google.com/hii-yaux-qgs).

Otherwise, to join by telephone, dial:  
+1 415-604-0783; enter PIN: 815 342 983#.

## In Service to Our Country

Walker Polsinelli  
Tyler Smith

Geoff White

## For Cheer and Hello

David Bretz  
Flossie Lang  
Robert & Carmen Parsons

Mina Willett  
Betty Witcher

## This Week's Calendar

### Today

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
12:15 p.m. Strategic Planning by Zoom

### Monday, April 19

7:30 p.m. SPRC by Zoom

### Tuesday, April 20

1:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle in the Taylor Room

### Wednesday, April 21

8:00 p.m. Midweek prayer meeting online

### Thursday, April 22

*no church activities are scheduled*

### Friday, April 23 — Pastor's Day Off

*no church activities are scheduled*

### Saturday, April 24

*no church activities are scheduled*

### Next Week

#### Monday, April 26

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee by Zoom  
7:30 p.m. Church Council by Zoom

## Priscilla Circle

On April 20 at 1:00 p.m., Priscilla Circle will have its first meeting of the year. We will be meeting at church in the Taylor Room.

Looking for a circle? COME JOIN US!

**Today is Native American Ministries Sunday celebration.** This offering funds urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries and annual conference Native American ministries. You may give at any time throughout the year.

If you would like to give, please make your check payable to VUMC and designate the offering on the memo line, then mail it in with your regular giving (217 S Main St, Vicksburg MI 49097), or bring it to church with you on Sunday. You may also give online at [UMC Special Sundays Support](#).

## Coming deadlines

- Items for the May newsletter are due to Polly ([reception@vicksburgumc.org](mailto:reception@vicksburgumc.org)) by Monday, Apr. 26.
- ShopWithScrip orders are due in the church office by 2:00 Monday, May 3.

## Twelve Baskets offers free food

If you are in need of food, you can shop twice a month at Twelve Baskets on the following dates each month:

- 1st and 3rd Fridays from 2:30 to 5:30
- 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 10:00 to 1:00

Currently, drive-through shopping is necessary, and food will be delivered to your vehicle.

Twelve Baskets is located at 10332 Portage Rd., Portage, just north of E. Osterhout Ave.

If you are in need of food and are not able to get out to shop, please contact Kris Miller at (269) 760-3036 or [millerberg@comcast.net](mailto:millerberg@comcast.net). Kris can accommodate one home delivery per week.

## Watch any Sunday service anytime

on YouTube. Search for Vicksburg UMC and select it from the list, then select the service you want to watch.

## Donate through consignment

United Methodist Women has an account at Home Again Consignment Store at 815 W. Prairie, Vicksburg. Anyone can drop off good new or used items at the store, and the proceeds will be donated to UMW. You must make an appointment at 649-1944, Facebook page and <https://www.homeagainvicksburg.com/>. Facebook and website have the rules for consigning.