

*One asterisk means to stand, as you are able.

Feel free to come forward during the closing song to light a candle, as a public sign of an inward commitment to life in the light of Christ. If your religious tradition includes crossing yourself, feel free to do that here.

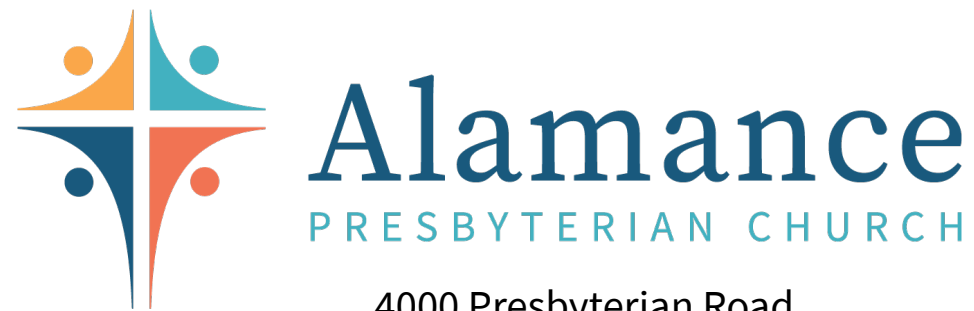
The nearest restrooms are out the sanctuary side door, through the breezeway, and into the alcove of the Thin Place Gallery.

Assisted listening devices are available from the technician at the Audiovisual booth, which is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Citations for references used during worship are available from the ministers, upon request. The New Revised Standard Version (Updated Edition) of the Bible is used during worship, unless otherwise noted.

Lectionary Year A, Fourth Sunday of Easter, **April 26:**
Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10.

Lectionary Year A, Fifth Sunday of Easter, **May 3:**
Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10;
John 14:1-14.



4000 Presbyterian Road
Greensboro, NC 27406
(336)-697-0488
www.alamancechurch.org

We welcome all to the community of Jesus:
to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

We are an ecumenical congregation
in a Presbyterian Church (USA) form.
We are a **Matthew 25** Church.
We are a Hunger Action Congregation.
We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

CHURCH OFFICE: (336)-697-0488

info@alamancechurch.org

Dr. Kyle Goodman, Lead Pastor
Andrew Long, Audiovisual Technician
Joy Thomas, Director, Children's Ministries
Katie Long, Director of Music
Jacob Dishman, Pianist
Dana Adams, Finance and Administration Coordinator
Lynn Barnes, Administrative Assistant



We welcome all to the community of Jesus:
to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

Fourth Sunday of Easter,
Youth Sunday

April 26, 2026 10 a.m.

LARGE PRINT

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Lay Reader today is Carter Rojas.

Centering Music

* Call to Worship

One: Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of Heaven
starts small. Like the smallest of seeds.

All: Small enough to miss. Small enough to doubt.

One: But God is always up to something.

God is always growing something in us.

All: Even when we cannot see it.

Even when we dare not believe it.

One: So, come. Come with your whole self: your faith,
your questions, your worries, and your doubts.

Open your whole heart.

All: And let's see what God might be growing in us.

One: To God be the glory!

All: Let us worship God.

* **Opening Hymn** *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Song sheet

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of growth, you plant good things in us: love, truth, faith, courage. But we confess we don't always make room for them. We get distracted, scrolling past what really matters. We get excited for a moment, but give up when things get hard. We let stress, pressure, and fear crowd out your voice. Forgive us. Clear the ground of our hearts. Pull the weeds we've let grow. Help us slow down, listen deeply, and trust that even small faith can grow. Till our hearts, and strengthen the faith that grows within us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

A Promise of Forgiveness and Peace

* Passing of the Peace

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

We invite everyone to share Christ's peace with your neighbors, both now and after the service.

* **Sung Response** *Sanctuary* Song sheet

First Scripture Reading *Matthew 13:31-35*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *In Heaven's Eyes* - Phill McHugh

Jared Gill, violin; Cathy Wray, piano

Children's Message

Children from age 4-5th grade may now go to the Grace Space, at the front of the sanctuary.

Second Scripture Reading *The Parable of the Sower*

Reflections on the Scripture

Ryan Garrett
Jared Gill
Birdie Church
Grant Smith

Words of Reflection from *Mere Christianity*

- C.S. Lewis

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of — throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made in to a decent little cottage, but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

King James Version

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowéd be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in 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.

Call to Offering

Sharing of Offering

We invite you to prayerfully donate to the continued life and work of our congregation.

Offertory Grant Smith, clarinet

* **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Song sheet

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

* **Sending Hymn** *Hymn of Promise* Song sheet

Feel free to come forward during the closing song to light a candle, as a public sign of an inward commitment to life in the light of Christ. If your religious tradition includes crossing yourself, feel free to do that here.

* Charge and Benediction

Closing Music