

**WELCOME TO
THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
*April 26, 2026 at 10:00 AM***

"As the blossoms of the Easter lilies fade, we are invited to continue to embrace the riddle of faith: by dying, the shepherd provided abundant life. Sometimes it is hard to see and understand; but abundant life is the vision that Jesus has for all of us."

The Rev. Dr. Shannon Michael Pater

 Congregation standing, as able

GATHERING IN THE JOY OF EASTER

PRELUDE

"There Is a Fountain"

CLEANSING FOUNTAIN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

 CALL TO WORSHIP


We are a Resurrection people called by God to live a Resurrection life. We also live with the assurance and faith that the Lord is our Shepherd.

The Lord is our Shepherd; we shall not be in want for the Lord makes us lie down in green pastures and leads us beside quiet waters. The Lord restores our souls and guides us in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil, for the Lord is with us; the Lord's guidance comforts us.

For the Lord prepares a table before us in the presence of those who would harm us. The Lord provides us with all we need and our cup of blessing overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives,
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

 **OPENING SONG OF PRAISE 206** “Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing” TRURO
(verses 1-4)

 **SALUTATION**

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Weston Joseph Cusack

Presentation and Profession of Faith

 **Congregational Vow, Welcome, and Prayer of Blessing**

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support Talbot, Bryan, and Weston by teaching the gospel of God’s love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God’s family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

WE DO!

Let us welcome this child of God today.

**Joyfully we receive Weston into the body of Christ.
Together, we give witness in the world to the good news,
for we are all one in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!**

The Baptismal Covenant and Message to the Children
(The children may proceed to Sunday School at this time.)

 **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

(Please share the peace of Christ with one another.)

THE MESSAGE OF EASTER

ANTHEM

“Like a River in My Soul”

Traditional Spiritual,
Arr. Tim Osiek

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

John 10:1-10

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

MESSAGE

“The Gate is Open”

RESPONDING AS EASTER PEOPLE

SONG OF RESPONSE **330** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...concluding with 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.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the God of Life,
whose breath is in us
and whose mercy encircles the creation.

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who loved us indestructibly
and who shared our pain.**

**Christ is with us now as he promised,
even to the end of the age.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who welcomes us into the household of faith,
gives us gifts in abundance,
enlivens our hearts with joy,
**and urges us into the world
to testify without fear
to God's justice and grace.**

Hoping against hope
for the promised realm of peace,
we love one another while we live,
we honor every creature God has made,
**we stand against the powers of sin and death,
and we bless the earth and all that fills it.**
**Glory, thanks, and praise be yours,
O Living God, now and forever! Amen.**
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

 CLOSING SONG 925 "Go To the World" ENGELBERG

 BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Arr. M. Hayes



Assisting God's people in worship are Pastor Eric Nichols, worship leader; Pastor Kim Pavlovich, liturgist; Parker Weston, worship host; Tech Team; Chancel Choir; Kevin Lynch, accompanist; Dan King, Director of Music Ministries.

🌀 Calendar and Notices 🌀

- Sun, Apr 26 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 am High School Sunday School (Oxbow)
10:10 am Sunday School
11:30 am Christian Ed meeting (Nan's Room)
- Tue, Apr 28 9:00 am Helping Hands
- Wed, Apr 29 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thu, Apr 30 12:00 pm Brown Bags and Bibles
- Sun, May 3 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
10:10 am Sunday School
11:00 am Youth Group (Oxbow)

Today we celebrate the baptism of Weston Cusack with his parents, Talbot and Bryan Cusack, godparents Parker Weston and Candice Kehres, and family. The flowers in the sanctuary were given by his grandparents, Bill and Hope Weston, in celebration of Weston's baptism.

Please include in your prayers of intercession: Tammy Venti, Barbara De Berry, Alice O'Connell, Jannie van Drimmelen (Corine Miller's mother), David Terpstra, Dave Vanderbush, Christina Gaboda, Priscilla Durkin, Jac Young (Glenn O'Connell's uncle), Skip Dahl, Frank Minutolo, Domenick Carofine, Janet Wright, Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, June Jesch, James M. (friend of Kim Goerg), Tiffany Nix and her brother, Donald, and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! PRC's next Ladies' Night Out will be held on Friday, May 1, at 5:30 PM at The Village Inn in Wayne, located at 422 Runnymede Drive. The cost is \$30 per person. Please reach out to Annie McKay by 4/24 to RSVP. We hope you'll join us for another fun evening of fellowship, laughter, and spiritual encouragement!

We've been spring cleaning! Please support our efforts to “clean out our closets” ...if you have something you'd like to donate to the church that isn't part of an active collection, please clear it with the church office before dropping it off. *Thank you!*

A heartfelt thank you from the Sunday School for the generous birthday kit donations. We were able to provide (36) birthday kits to the WIN Food Pantry.



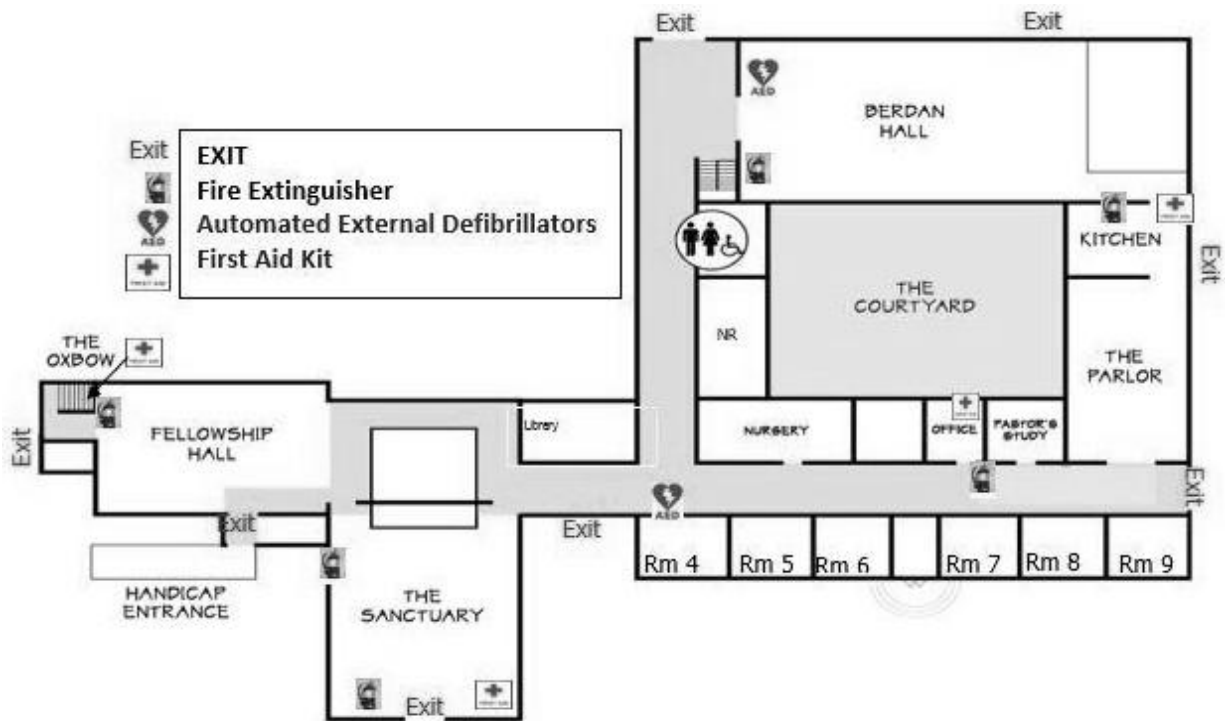
Applications for the 2026 PRC Memorial Scholarship Awards

are now available electronically on the PRC website, paper copies in the church office, or from Joan Vanderbush at djvander90@gmail.com. Applicants may attend or plan to

attend a two-year vocational college, a four-year academic college, graduate school, or be enrolled in courses which help the individual progress toward his or her educational goals. **The firm deadline this year is Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, 2026.** Please adhere to all directions and timeline. Any questions, please call or text Joan at 201-245-9844. *Parents, if your children do not receive emails from PRC, please pass along this information.*

↻ **Assisting in Worship** ↻

	<u>Apr 26</u>	<u>May 3</u>
Flowers	Ken De Berry	Tom Powers
Counter	Ken Tanis	Bruce Hinnens
Head Usher	Dave Parish	Tom Powers
Ushers	Ken De Berry	Lydia Powers
	Priscilla Durkin	Bruce Hinnens



Please note: If you need to exit the sanctuary during our worship services for any reason, you may exit through the front of the sanctuary (the door beneath the cross), preferably during a transition time in worship (e.g. the beginning of a song, passing the peace, etc.).

✎ Consistory ✎

Elders

Amanda Declet
Priscilla Durkin
Jennie Franklyn
Bill Weston

Deacons

Hannah Kudrik
Donna McKeon
Glenn O'Connell
Heather Kroll
Ken De Berry
Jennifer Graf
Tom Powers
Tim Coyne
Martin McKay
Jessica Amato
Gaye Servideo
Vicki Lefelar
Christina Gaboda

✎ Preakness Reformed Church Staff ✎

Rev. Eric Nichols, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kim Pavlovich, Associate Pastor
Daniel King, Director of Music Ministries
Kevin Lynch, Accompanist
Christina Collucci, Office Manager
Rev. Mary Marcus, Minister Emerita



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