



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
P.O. Box 267, Walker, MN 56484 (218) 547-1093
www.uccwalker.com commchurchucc@gmail.com

“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”

April 5, 2026

 **Easter Sunday** | Matthew 28:1-10
**the good news is... alive in the
world**

Worship Leaders:

Pastor: Michael Small

Liturgist: Sonja Huber

Greeter: Gay Jacobson

Special Music: Voices of Community (Dir, Sue Grage), EmBELLishment

Keyboard: Sabbastian Wilson-Webb

Tech: Ace Diehl (Video), Samuel Batson (Audio)
Spiritual Life, Chancel and Communion Preparation

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC

“We’re You There?”

EmBELLishment
and Sabbastian Wilson-Webb

RINGING OF THE HOUR

† HYMN

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

#233

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

All: On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

† For those who are able, please stand.

All: But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

One: The good news is dancing!

All: The good news is on the loose!

One: The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

All: Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

One: Let us worship our good-news Christ.

A TIME OF CENTERING

(During this time of centering, open your hearts to God; be in the present, here and now.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God,
we want to be Easter people.**

We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.

**We want to follow the angels, who said, “Be not afraid,”
but we are afraid.**

And we don’t know where to look.

And we are worried we’ll say the wrong thing.

So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.

We are best intentions and best laid plans.

We are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias.”

We are on our way, but we are not there yet.

Show us how to embody your good news in this world.

Show us how to be your Easter people.

With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

(Each person can take this time to surrender to God privately anything weighing heavy on their heart.)

WORDS OF GRACE

One: Family of faith,

even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God.

Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration:

All: Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.

† For those who are able, please stand.

† PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Voices of Community

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Focus Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10 *Priests for equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation* (p. 660). Bloomsbury Publishing. Kindle Edition.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary of Magdala came with Mary to inspect the tomb.

² Suddenly, there was a severe earthquake, and an angel of God descended from heaven, rolled back the stone, and sat on it. ³ The angel's appearance was like lightning, with garments white as snow. ⁴ The guards shook with fear and fell down as though they were dead.

⁵ Then the angel spoke, addressing the women: "Don't be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus the crucified, ⁶ who is no longer here. Jesus has been raised, exactly as it was foretold. Come and see the burial place. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell the disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead and now goes ahead of you to Galilee. You will see Jesus there. That is the message I have for you."

⁸ The women hurried away from the tomb with awe and great joy and ran to carry the good news to the disciples.

⁹ Suddenly Jesus stood before them and said, "Shalom!" The women came up, embraced Jesus' feet and worshiped. ¹⁰ At this, Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell the disciples to go to Galilee, where they will see me."

REFLECTION

"A Seismic Shift!"

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One: We remember that night during the Passover Jesus had his last meal at a table, with those closest to him. There, they shared their love of God and Jesus and of each other.

† For those who are able, please stand.

In the midst of love, Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread and said, something like this, “Take and eat this gift from the earth and from the human hands that prepared it and know that God gives it to you, a blessing for your body and your spirit.”

Later, Jesus took a cup and after blessing it said something like this, “Drink this fruit of the vine, the gift of the sun and labor in the fields. Taste and know the goodness of God.”

HYMN

"Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"

#342

COMMUNION SERVED

(As the bread is served, hold on to the bread until all have been served – we eat together affirming that we are a part of the beloved community, the Body of Christ)

One: The bread of the risen Christ

[Bread Served]

One: Jesus then took the cup asking the disciples to imagine what it feels like to be both empty and then full, for in both states, he shared that God is indeed with us. Take, drink, and remember.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Voices of Community

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

DOXOLOGY: *(as collection plates come forward)*

Tune #780

† For those who are able, please stand.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.
It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.
And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.
I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.
I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive
in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

†HYMN

“The Day of Resurrection”

#245

PARTING WORDS

POSTLUDE

WI-FI – “Guest” Scan QR Code for Internet Access

Worship Materials from “*Telling the Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent*” from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Used with permission.

