

Blessed
are those who
have not
seen
and yet have
Believe

John 20:29b

WORSHIP OF GOD | APRIL 12, 2026

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church

175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | rochesterfbc.org

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Rev. Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson, guest preacher

Doleen Hood, interim music director | Samuel Baker, organist

Naomi Chad, soprano | Liyao Yu, mezzo | Jonathan Ellwanger, tenor | Ashton Rapp, baritone

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.

Prelude	<i>O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing</i> (Please refer to hymn #313 for text)	arr. M. H. Corl
Chiming of the Hour		
Music for Meditation	<i>Singing I Go</i>	Eliza Hewitt, arr. Krista Sivntsky
Introduction		Bob Oaks
Welcome and Invocation		Carol Misra
Invitation To Worship	<i>Based on Easter and Psalm 16</i>	Carol Misra
One:	Alleluia! Christ is risen!	
Many:	Alleluia! New life opens before us, and our hearts are glad!	
One:	Our resurrecting God continues to breathe new life into all creation.	
Many:	Our loving God shows us the path of new life.	
One:	We will keep the Lord always before us; we shall not be moved.	
Many:	Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice; our bodies also rest secure.	
One:	With God's Spirit, there is fullness of joy.	
ALL:	Let's come and worship together, with joy and love, rejoicing in God.	
*Hymn	<i>Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart</i> v. 1, 3, 5	#132
Scripture	<i>Psalm 16</i>	Carol Misra
Morning Prayer: Sharing our joys and concerns with Unison Lord's Prayer		Bob Oaks
Special Music	<i>Christ is Arisen, Indeed!</i>	Natalie Sleeth
Children's Time		Bob Oaks
*Hymn	<i>Crown Him with Many Crowns</i>	#317
Scripture, Prayer and Sermon	<i>John 20:19-31</i> <i>Too Good to be True</i>	Rev. Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication

Rev. Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson

Music for Response *In Death's Strong Grasp the Savior Lay* arr. Samuel Scheidt

*Doxology *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

***We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be.
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.***

Invitation to Mission and Ministry

Bob Oaks

*Closing Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#712

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson

Postlude

I Sing the Almighty Power of God
(Please refer to hymn #31 for text)

arr. Albert L. Travis

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2026

The Wisdom and Power of Storytelling

"I WILL OPEN MY MOUTH TO SPEAK IN PARABLES;
I WILL PROCLAIM WHAT HAS BEEN HIDDEN SINCE THE FOUNDATION." MATTHEW 13:34-35 NRSVUE

Offering Collected on April 19 & April 26

Contributions to the pass-through America for Christ Offering on April 19 and April 26 will help support a wide range of ABC-USA Home Mission Society initiatives across America, including:

- Leadership development for pastors, chaplains, and laity
- Community-based ministries that address hunger, housing insecurity, and economic hardship
- Justice-focused initiatives responding to systemic inequities
- Faith formation and discipleship across generations

INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!

TODAY:

- Welcome Rev. Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson to the pulpit today.
- The children will depart following Children's Time for Sunday School. There will be Children's choir following a brief fellowship in the Choir room at 11:15 AM.
- Youth Group will meet today in the Youth Room at the end of the Education Wing.
- Thank you to the many volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work.
- A special thank you to our substitute alto section leader today, Xintong Li.
- Handbell Choir: **Today is the deadline** to sign up for spring handbells. If interested in participating, see Doleen Hood after worship. Rehearsals 6:00-6:30 PM Wednesday, May 6, 13, 27, and then play in worship on May 31. Join us for this fun opportunity to make music together!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) will meet on **April 16**, with a book review and discussion on *Carneige's Maid* by Marie Benedict. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP to kandeetabor@gmail.com.
- Our Wednesday evening studies will resume on April 22. Watch for details to come soon.
- FBCR Book Club will meet on April 28 to discuss *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon. Gather at 11:30 AM for a Bring-your-own lunch for fellowship followed by a book discussion at noon.
- Handbell Choir Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 13, 27 from 6 to 6:30 PM and then play in worship on May 31.

SAVE THE DATES:

- Welcome to Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby, assistant pastor, on April 19.
- Celebrate our first Jazz & Gospel inspired service to be held on April 26 at 10 AM.
- Our Section Leader Recital will be on May 3, following worship and a quick break, at 11:20 AM.
- We will wish farewell to Ashton Rapp, graduating senior section leader, on May 10.
- Children's Sunday will be held on June 7.

GIVING:

- CONGRATULATIONS! Your generous donations helped us exceed our goal of 80 items. On Easter Sunday, we collected **100** jellies and canned pastas for the Center for Youth's Food Nook! Since July of 2025, we have donated 655 items. Well done, First Rochester!
- In April and May, we will be collecting select hygiene items for Brighton City School students in need over the summer months. Please bring to church hand sanitizers, deodorants, or hand/body lotions and place them on the table before you enter the sanctuary.

SIGN-UPS IN THE GARDEN ROOM:

- On the sign-up table there are ways to volunteer and participate: **Readers** in worship in May and June; along with **Ushers**; and **Fellowship Time**. Information Sign-ups are also available.

MEETINGS:

- Mission Meeting: Second Hour on Sunday, April 19; Trustees Meeting: Monday, April 20 on Zoom 6 PM; and Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 21 on Zoom at 6 PM.