

TRINITY CHURCH OF PORTLAND

APRIL 12, 2026

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Please stand as we hear the Call to Worship.*

—Psalm 27:1-5, 7-8, 11, 13-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Brief Prayer.*

WE RESPOND IN CONFESSION

In Response To: John 20:24–29; Hebrews 11:1; Mark 16:14; John 20:29

Merciful Father, we confess that like Thomas, we often demand proof before we believe.

We want to see with our eyes and touch with our hands rather than trust in your promises.

We resist the testimony of fellow believers and insist on our own evidence.

We let doubt paralyze our faith and skepticism harden our hearts.

We forget that you are gracious to seekers and patient with questioners.

Forgive us for our unbelief.

Transform our demanding hearts into trusting hearts, our skeptical minds into believing minds,
and our hesitant lips into voices that boldly proclaim: 'My Lord and my God!'

SCRIPTURE RESPONSES

John 20:24–29 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.

John 20:29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

GOD GRANTS US PARDON

—John 20:27–29

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

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SERMON TEXT

—Word Life: John 20:24-31

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COVENANT RENEWAL

Christian, what do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Christian, what do you believe?

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Christian, what do you believe?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the One, Holy, Christian and Apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION

—2 Corinthians 5:7; Romans 10:17

for we walk by faith, not by sight. So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.