

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
April 19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter
Associate Pastor Candidate



Gathering As a People of God

At PCO we strive to be a faithful, open, and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any age, ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

Preparation: “*This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.*” - Acts 2:32

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Abide with Me

J.S. Bach

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Choral Introit

When in the Night I Meditate

PCO Chancel Choir

Shelby Laird, director

* **Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 16)

Candy Boldrey, APNC Member

One: I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

All: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

One: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit.

All: You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

One: Let us worship God!

* **Hymn # 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, vs. 1-4

[St. Denio]

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Aaron Punt

One: We have been called to faith by the Holy Spirit, and we find our solace in the Most High—and yet we acknowledge that at times our trust falters and our resolve is lacking, and we allow our doubts to guide our actions, rather than our faith. Come, let us seek the forgiveness of God.

All: Holy and gracious God, you have called us to faith, and yet our doubt leads us to turn away from you and your ways. You direct us to trust in your provision, but we hoard our resources and spurn those in need. You teach us to give generously without expecting repayment, but we keep record of all the debts owed us, even as we ask for your grace and forbearance. You command that we are to love you and our neighbor with all that we have, yet we allow our fears and prejudices to influence our words, actions, and thoughts.

Forgive us for the moments when our doubt and anxiety lead us away from your teachings and cause us to stumble in upholding your commandments. By your Spirit, strengthen our faith and resolve, and help us to follow your ways. In Christ, grant what we need to strengthen our faith. In the name of our savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Rev. Aaron Punt

One: By mercy through Christ, God redeems us from our sins when we come before him in confession and repentance.

All: Thanks be to God for the new creation we are in Christ.

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* **Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Zach Nawyn-Hellinga, APNC Member

Almighty God, as we receive your holy word this morning, we ask that your Spirit would be upon us. By your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, and our hearts and minds to receive the wisdom and knowledge of your word. Let your word take root and grow within us, continuing to shape us into your kingdom's people. We ask this in the name of Christ, our savior, the Living Word. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Rev. Aaron Punt

First Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Brett Cone, APNC Member

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

John 20:19-31

Rev. Aaron Punt

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Doubting [Your Name Here]

Rev. Aaron Punt

Responding to the Word

Anthem

O Lamb of God Most Holy

Nicholas Decius

PCO Chancel Choir

Arr. Robert Leaf

Shelby Laird, director

Minute for Engagement

Dinner in My Home

Jerri Gillett

Offering

Rev. Aaron Punt

Invitation

Offertory

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Jean Francois Dandrieu

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Zach Krawczyk, APNC Member

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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.

Sent Out As a People of God

*** Hymn #819**

Be Still, My Soul, vs. 1-3

[Finlandia]

*** Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Aaron Punt

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Meeting of the Congregation following worship. We encourage all to remain for this meeting; however, only members are eligible to vote. The purposes of the meeting are to hear to a report from the APNC to approve and welcome an Associate Pastor candidate and approve their Terms of Call. Please note, fellowship time will be held after the meeting.

For those joining us via Zoom, the link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84065852997>

Postlude

Postlude in G Major
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

George Frederic Handel

* Please rise in body or spirit

Ushers: Brett & Lynette Cone, Deb & Joel Major

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Parish Life for providing the birthday cake as we celebrate April birthdays and to the APNC for supplying our snacks and a Welcome to PCO cake as we celebrate the Rev. Aaron Punt and family. Thank you to Edward Ennen for making the coffee and to Dave Rumminger for washing the dishes.

Flowers: The flowers this morning are given by the APNC to welcome the Rev. Aaron Punt and family to PCO.

No Education Hour. Congregational Meeting following worship and a reception to welcome the Punt family.

Next Week: April 26 Creation Care Sunday. The Green Team will be leading worship. Brian McWilliams preaching.

Scripture: Isaiah 65:16–19, 24-25 and Revelation 21:1-6, 22:1-2

Education Hour: Stephen Keizer from the Presbyterian Foundation speaking. Stewardship for the Future Church: How the Church and PCO Manage Investments

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager
Jacob Meland, Media Specialist