

**May 3, 2026 8:00/9:30am**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

## **WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

### **OPENING HYMN      "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"      LSB 465**

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds In praise of love that still abounds:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through Your triumph; Grant grace sufficient for life's day  
That by our lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring And with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father and our Lord,  
To Spirit blest, most holy God, All the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

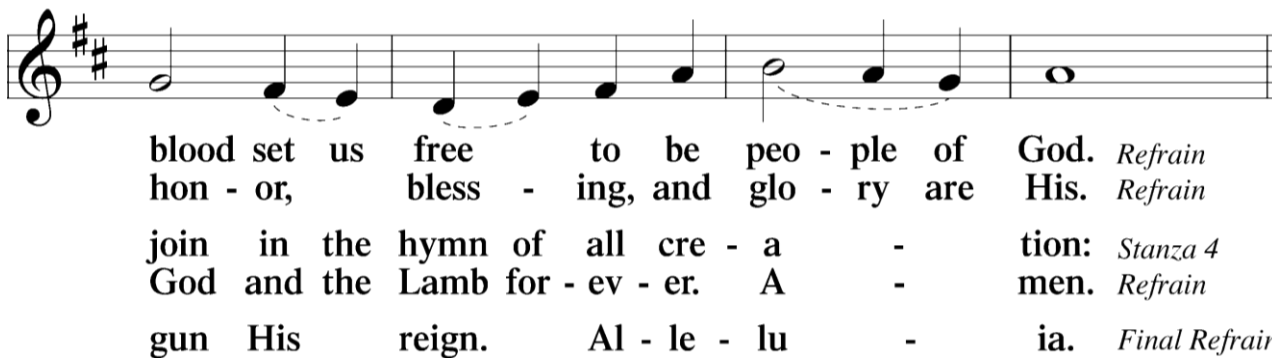
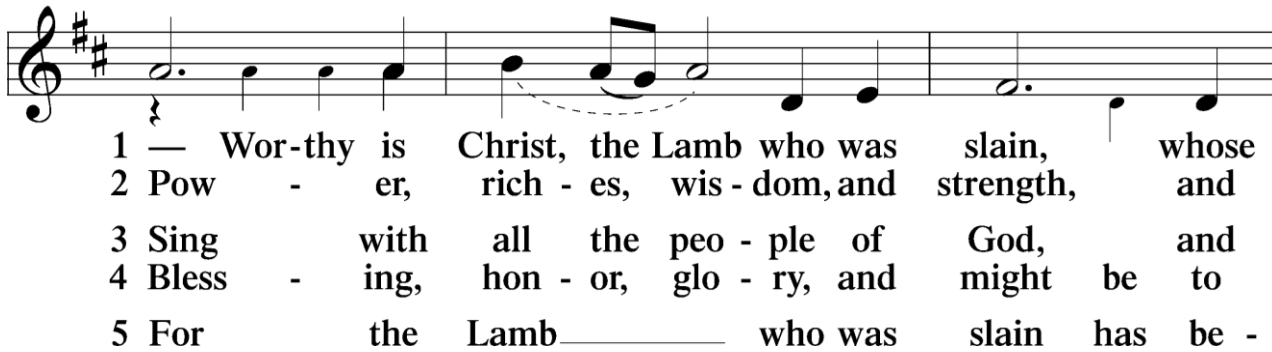
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, through the sacrifice of Your Son on the cross to the empty tomb, You revealed Christ risen and your life-changing mercy and love for us and all mankind. Grant to Your faithful people a daily recognition of His victory over sin, death, and the grave, that we might serve You in confident joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON**

**Acts 6:1-10**

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the second staff.

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 14:1-14**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:00)**

**HYMN OF THE DAY      “You Are the Way; through You Alone”      LSB 526**

You are the way; through You alone  
Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed  
His heart and will and mind.

You are the life; the empty tomb  
Proclaims Your conqu’ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You  
Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind  
And purify the heart.

You are the way, the truth, the life;  
Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win  
Whose joys eternal flow.

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**SERMON**

**“A Place for You”**

**Pastor Barry**

**NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, with joy the Church continues to celebrate the Resurrection victory of Your beloved Son. Look in Your mercy on all who have been baptized into His death and resurrection, and grant them grace each day to die to sin and rise to newness of life with Him. O God of Grace, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord of kindness and compassion, Your Son throughout His ministry healed the sick and relieved the distressed. Remember in tenderness those who are in need of His healing and comfort today...By the power of Your Holy Spirit, grant them grace to entrust themselves entirely to Your loving care. O God of Grace, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Triune God, we pray for our confirmands as they make their profession of faith today. Through the precious gifts of Your Word and Sacrament, fill them with Your Holy Spirit, that they might continue to grow in grace and knowledge of You and serve You faithfully as You complete the work You began in them in their Baptism. O God of Grace, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

### “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB 781, vv. 1-2

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.

May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our firstfruits give!

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### 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood. This we eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor or an elder. For further readings in Scripture, we suggest Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

- **Communicants will receive elements in a continuous fashion.**
- **If you would like the pastor to bring communion to you, please inform an usher anytime during the service.**
- **Children of all ages may join their parents and receive a special blessing.**
- **For those who desire it, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center ring of the tray of individual cups.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMN****“What Is This Bread”****LSB 629**

What is this bread?  
Christ’s body risen from the dead:  
This bread we break,  
This life we take,  
Was crushed to pay for our release.  
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?  
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;  
The cup of grace  
Brings His embrace  
Of life and love until I sing!  
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I,  
That I should live and He should die  
Under the rod?  
My God, my God,  
Why have You not forsaken me?  
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

Yet is God here?  
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,  
In mouth and soul  
He makes us whole—  
Christ, truly present in this meal.  
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?  
I am forgiven and set free!  
I do believe  
That I receive  
His very body and His blood.  
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

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**HYMN****“Yours Forever, God of Love”****LW 256**

Yours forever, God of love! Hear us from Your throne above.  
Yours forever may we be Here and in eternity.

Yours forever! Oh, how blest They who find in Your their rest!  
Savior, Guardian, heav’nly friend, Oh, defend us to the end.

Yours forever! Lord of life, Shield us through our earthly strife.  
You, the Life, the Truth, the Way, Guide us to the realms of day.

Yours forever! Shepherd, save This Your flock that You forgave.  
Keep us safe within Your care, Let us all Your goodness share.

Yours forever! You our guide, All our wants by You supplied,  
All our sins by You forgiv’n, Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav’n.

Text: Public domain

**HYMN****“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”****LSB 623**

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.

Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,  
The grateful peace of sins forgiv’n, The certain joys of heirs of heav’n.

By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.

One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest In heaven’s high and holy feast.

Text: Public domain

**DISMISSAL**

## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith as we look with joy at the wonderful gifts You give us in repentance and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

### **"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

**LSB 643**

Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave. The Supper is ended.  
O now be extended The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us  
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring, Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

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## **SENDING**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

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**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH ST. JOHN'S TODAY!**  
**If this is your first time at St. John's, we invite you to fill out a**  
**CONNECTCard located at the Welcome Desk or by using the**  
**QR code. We look forward to CONNECT-ing with you.**



**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Acolytes: 8:00 Evelyn Bates  
 Communion Asst: 8:00 Gayle Degler, Chris Mundahl  
 9:30 Thomas Leier, Daniel Schlueter, Bruce Wolf  
 Elders: 8:00 Pete Siedelman/9:30 Ben Wiegert  
 Usher Team: 8:00 Jay Molnau/9:30 Mark Young  
 Welcome Team: 8:00 Gayle Degler, Gary Herber/9:30 Matzke Family  
 Tech Crew: 8:00 Tracy Eickhoff/9:30 Martin Sihombing  
 Coffee Hour: 9:00 Amelia Kuester

<b>UPCOMING WEEK</b>	
Sunday, May 3	5 and 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Night 5:00pm
Monday, May 4	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, May 5	Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, May 6	Moms in the Word 9:30am
	Messengers of Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm
Thursday, May 7	Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am
	Ladies Aid Meeting 1:30pm
	Gerten's Pick-Up 3:00pm-6:00pm
	Trail Life National Day of Prayer 5:00pm
Friday, May 8	AA 6:30pm
Sunday, May 10	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am

## **In Sympathy**

The family of Gordon Thomas, upon his passing.

The family of Phillip Waldron, upon his passing.

The family of Mary Snorek, upon her passing.

## **Prayers for Healing and Strength**

David Burfield  
Emily Pagelkopf  
Stephen Wetzel

Anne Dutcher  
Brody Miller

## **Ongoing Prayers**

Carol Affeldt  
John Barney  
Merlin Bentz  
Jack Boman  
Jimann Campbell  
Julie Carver  
Marguerite Craighead  
Sunnie Deis

Anita Doss  
Sid & Merna Fjelstad  
Dennis Gaarder  
Ruth Harms  
Eugene Henke  
Carol Jones  
Len Kallsen  
Tim & Gretchen Laubach

Marilyn Lenzen  
Melinda Meuwissen  
Steve Pond  
Cliff Waller  
Lois Wenz  
Ruth Ziegler

## **Celebrating Birthdays**

5/3

Jo Tucker

5/4

Ciara Reisner

Stephen Wetzel

5/6

Kimberly Ische

Roberta McDermott

Patti Oelfke

5/7

Aliyah Messer

5/7

Evan Sutherland

Ben Wiegert

5/8

Ruby Geuther

Paige Hagen

Evan Hagen

Wyatt Messenger

Joselyn Stender

5/9

Liz Bennes

5/9

Jeffrey Boldt

Kathie Lenzen

Phillip Mann

Sophia Stockey

Alexis Thom

## Celebrating Anniversaries

5/3 Mike and Leslie Dartt  
5/4 Chris and Emma Mundahl  
5/4 Jon and Laura Thom  
5/5 Ken and Carrie Meyer  
5/5 Randy and Mary Peek

5/6 Steve and Teliah Beach  
5/6 Rick and LuAnn Panning  
5/7 Ben and Stephanie Wiegert  
5/8 Jeff and Amy Kuester

## Expectant Moms

Clara Crawley-Reid  
Haley Griffin

Christina Krueger  
Brittany Thormodson

JOIN US FOR OUR

*Sanctuary*

RE-DEDICATION

Sunday, May 17 | 8:00 · 9:30 · 10:45 AM

**St. John's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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