

# Fifth Sunday Of Easter

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026 8:00am & 9:30am



*Share Read Talk Pray Bless*

**Preparation For Worship:** But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."

*Psalm 31:14*

## Opening Song

## Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

Christ alone - cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone - cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

*Interlude*

He is Lord  
Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone - cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

### Invocation

Pastor: We gather today in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Jesus tells us, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though they die, yet shall they live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."  
*John 11*

**People: God is good!**

Pastor: All the time!

**People: All the time!**

Pastor: God is good!

**People: Like spring after winter is the faithful renewal of Jesus' love.**

Pastor: May your life be renewed like spring after winter in Jesus' love.

### Confession and Absolution

Pastor: Jesus' preaching began with, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus also answered the Pharisees when they questioned who He welcomed and forgave, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

**People: After His resurrection Jesus said to His disciples, "It is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."**

Pastor: Acknowledging the promise and call of God to confess, repent, and receive forgiveness, we join in the Apostle John's words:

**People: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned we make God a liar, and His Word is not in us.**

**Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Forgive me of my sins, I pray.** *(Reflection for confession)*

Pastor: Jesus laid down His life for our sins to be forgiven. He cleanses us, and calls us clean as we believe and receive His reconciliation. As you have confessed and believed, as a called servant of Jesus our Christ, and according to His Word, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Daily Text

Then Gideon said to him, "If now I have found favor with you, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me." *Judges 6:17*

Nicodemus came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher who has come from God for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with that person." *John 3:2*

Let us pray:

**People: Jesus, heavenly teacher, sometimes I look high and low for signs of Your presence, forgetting You are wherever I am. Thank You for Nicodemus, who found You by noticing Your handiwork. Your healing hands and wise counsel always give You away! Help me look to where You guide my vision. Someone nearby needs a sign of Your love. Amen.**

## Scripture Lessons *Read*

First Lesson

*Acts 7:55-60*

<sup>55</sup> But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup> But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup> Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Psalm

*Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16*

<sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me! <sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! <sup>3</sup> For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; <sup>4</sup> you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge. <sup>5</sup> Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors! <sup>16</sup> Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!

Second Lesson

*1 Peter 2:2-10*

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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."

<sup>7</sup> 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,"

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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.

Reader: Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Gospel. God has given us Good News.

**People: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. You have the words of eternal life.**

*Psalm 119:105, John 6:68*

Gospel Lesson

John 14:1-14

<sup>1</sup> “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> 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? <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup> 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’? <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> “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. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed**

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

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

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Sermon Song**

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou has been, Thou forever wilt be.**

***Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**

***Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

***Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.**

**Sermon/Watchword**      *Talk --- New, Knew, Next*

Rev. Knoll

Jesus Said, "I Am The Way, And The Truth, And The Life.  
No One Comes To The Father Except Through Me."

**Prayers of the Church**      *Pray*

The congregation is invited to join in prayers that include whole Church,  
the nation, those in need, the parish, additional petitions and special concerns.

**Pastor:** Let's join together to pray with Jesus for all that He loves right here, and to the  
ends of the earth. Father, our Father in heaven, You are the present active,  
Creator, and Redeemer of our heart, soul, mind and body.

**People:** **Thank You Lord, that in You we are made a part of Your great salvation of  
all that You have created. You have made us Your redeemed children. We  
join today with all those throughout the world who follow You, and pray**

**that Your kingdom would come, and Your will would be done among us as it is in heaven.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words...*

Pastor: You are our God, and we are Your people... Thank You that You hear our prayers, and work in all things for the good of those who love You. To You be all glory, honor, and praise.

**People: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**People: 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**

### **Benediction**     *Bless*

Pastor: Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May He make His face shine on you, and be gracious unto you.  
May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you His peace.  
Shalom. Shalom.

**People: Amen.**

**Blessing:** Child of God, believe that Jesus is the Cornerstone of our life and salvation.

Pastor: Our worship continues,

**People: our service begins!**

### **Closing Song**

#### **Only A Holy God**

**Who else commands all the hosts of heaven  
Who else could make every king bow down  
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles  
Only a Holy God**

**What other beauty demands such praises  
What other splendor outshines the sun  
What other majesty rules with justice  
Only a Holy God**

continued on next page

**Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only**

**Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God**

**What other glory consumes like fire  
What other power can raise the dead  
What other name remains undefeated  
Only a Holy God**

**Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God**

**Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God**

**Who else could rescue me from my failing  
Who else would offer His only Son  
Who else invites me to call Him Father  
Only a Holy God  
Only my Holy God**

**Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God**

**Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God**

**SHARING OF PEACE AS WE GO IN GOD'S PEACE**

**Welcome To Worship At Zion.** We are pleased to have you join us. *If you are a visitor* please check the shelf outside the office for our newsletter and brochure.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God.

**The Mission of the Month for May** is our own Lutheran Food Pantry Use Mission of the Month envelopes to support this mission and see the list of needed items listed in the May newsletter.

**The May Newsletter** is available on the tables across from the Chapel and Lounge, on the shelf outside the church office and also on the desk in the library. *Please remember: We no longer have a way to find out if you have moved. Call the church office with new addresses and/or phone numbers.*

**The 2026 Altar Flower Chart** is up in the hallway. Sign up for one (\$22.50) or two (\$45.00) vases. Please indicate whether it is in honor or memory of an individual or special event.

**Worship at Zion**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Worship
	<b>9:30am</b>	G.I.F.T. Worship
	<b>11:30am</b>	Swahili-English Worship
	<b>12:00pm</b>	Prevailing Word Ministries
	<b>5:00pm</b>	Harvest Fellowship

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