

Welcome

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**ELW Holy Communion Setting Three
Sunday, May 3, 2026**

OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you.



CONTACT US

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Pastor's email: patmohrkelly@gmail.com

Secretary's email: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

Welcome to worship, we're glad you're here! If you do not have a church home, please know that you are welcome to make this your church home.

God's blessings to you!

PRELUDE Courtney Frush

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving for Baptism (ELW p. 97)

Gathering Song: My Lord, What a Morning (ELW 438)

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 139) This is the Feast

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time t
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength. R**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.” R

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

A reading from 1 Peter.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do 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, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The assembly is seated.

Hymn of the Day: Spirit of Gentleness (ELW 396)

Nicene Creed (ELW pg. 104 or in the back cover of the red hymnal)

Prayer Song: ELW 814 Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

**Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

Prayers of Intercession

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Peace

Offering Hymn: Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 186)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (pg. 144)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW p. 144)

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion:

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: Holy God, We Praise Your Name (ELW 414)

Dismissal

Postlude: Courtney Frush

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peanut Butter Drive for Jesup Schools!

We have an urgent need—we've fallen behind, and our peanut butter drive is currently 27 jars short. We need to deliver to Jesup Schools as soon as possible.

Last Chance to Save a Lily!

There are 4 Easter lilies at the back of the church—please take one and plant it in your garden! Any remaining after today will be disposed of.

Remember our members in your prayers: Wendell, Shirley, Bill, Sharon, Jeanne, Debbie, Emelia, Lori, Joyce & Denny, Marie

Prayer Chain: Contact Kaye Jones kayejns@gmail.com or the office (secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org) with any prayer concerns.

Please stop at the back of the sanctuary to add your thumb print to the art work !

Soles4Souls Update:

Thanks to your generosity, we've collected over 3,500 pairs of shoes toward our goal of 10,000 by August 2026!

Cleaning out closets or wrapping up garage sales? Leftover shoes are always welcome—every pair helps others and keeps shoes out of landfills.

Thank you for your continued support!

Fellowship Volunteers needed!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050448A5A628AAF94-61890755-alcfellowship#/>



Scan QR code, use the link
or leave message for
Chris 319-827-6626

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday, May 3rd

**9am Worship with Communion
Confirmation to follow fellowship**

Sunday, May 10th Mothers Day

**9am Contemporary Worship
Confirmation Sunday**

Monday, May 11th

6:30pm Council Meeting

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance April 26th 30

Offering:

Current \$1630

Benevolence: \$160

Improvement: \$25

Memorial \$20

Youth: \$50

World Hunger \$400

Funds for Leaders \$100

Current Balance as of 3/31/2026

Checking: \$13,482.15

Savings: \$24,006.32

Improvement \$38,899.44

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Pat Moore Kelly

Music: Courtney Frush

Usher:

Deacon: Sheila Collins

Reader: Sheila Collins

Fellowship: Mary Adams

ELECTRONIC GIVING IT'S EASY!

Simply Giving is a stress-free, no hassle way to set up automatic giving to ALC. You have the ability to set up one-time or regular giving at a frequency that works best for you. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code below or download the Give+ App to get started. Feel free to reach out to Mike Waring.



Military members: Military members: Christa Leach has been called to active duty with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin are still members of the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is stationed at Fort Knox and in the Army Reserves Cassidee is stationed in Iowa City and Cole is currently home. Cody Clayton is back from Fort Benning, Georgia Basic Training and will report to Dubuque. Karsten Nuehring is currently at Fort Lee in Virginia for his AIT training Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We remember them in our prayers.