

Welcome to



May 3, 2026
5th Sunday
of Easter

The vision of Gethsemane Lutheran Church is to:
GROW UP in His Word,
GROW OUT in his Ministry,
GROW TOGETHER in His Love.

Pastor James Jennings
Preschool Director: Kim Perry
Administrative Assistant: Schawna Briney
Organist: Hsiao-Lan Wang
Elder on Duty: Wayne Blackmon

+ PRELUDE +

+ WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS +

+ OPENING HYMN +

861 CHRIST BE MY LEADER



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024 Tune: Irish Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope
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+ INVOCATION +

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of
the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **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.**

- P** 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

KYRIE

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

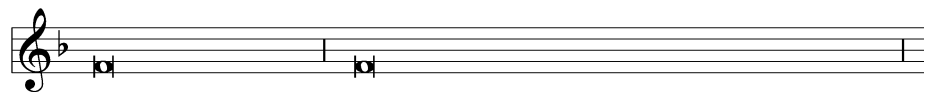
C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



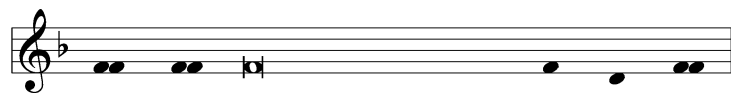
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now 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. ²And 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. ³Therefore, 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. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And 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. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And 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.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then 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. . . .

²And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.

⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

⁶⁰And 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you 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. ⁶For 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.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But 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. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C 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). The first staff begins with a common time signature and contains the melody for "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the". The second staff continues the melody with "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1–14

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to 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 had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus 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’? 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“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. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us

faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P 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."

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

PAX DOMINI

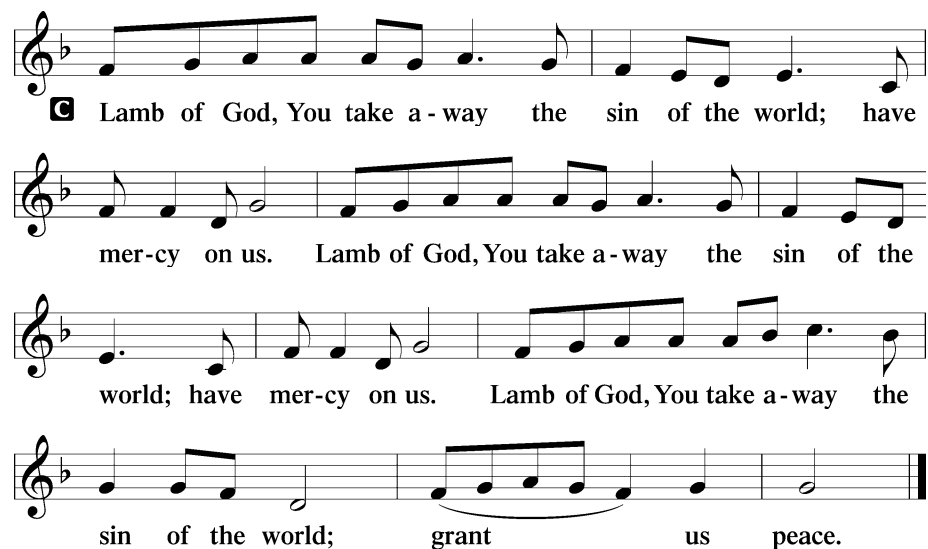
LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
In Him there is no dark - ness at all.
The night and the day are both a - like.
The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934-2025

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875 FATHER, WE PRAISE THEE



1 Fa - ther, we praise Thee, now the night is o - ver, Ac - tive and
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for Thy man - sions; Ban - ish our
△ 3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand we all be - fore Thee; Sing - ing, we of - fer
weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing; Bring us to heav - en,
bless - ed, send us Thy sal - va - tion; Thine is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion: Thus we a - dore Thee.
where Thy saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Text: attr. Gregory I, c. 540–604; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936

Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris

Text and tune: Public domain

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

+ CLOSING HYMN +

660 STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
 Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
 The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
 This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
 Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
 Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
 Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
 And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

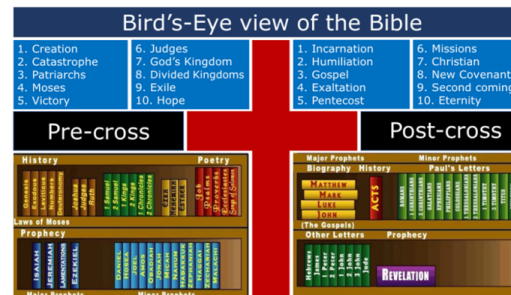
Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–88, alt. Tune: George J. Webb, 1803–87 Text and tune: Public domain

+ POSTLUDE +

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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What's Happening @ Gethsemane



Join us as we take a “Bird’s Eye” view of all of the books of the Bible. Some of the basics we probably already know and some facts that maybe we didn’t know or think of!

Tuesday mornings @ 10am in the Gethsemane Library



Tie Quilting will take place on Wednesday morning, May 13th from 9:30am until noon in the quilt room in the Life Center. All are welcome to participate!

Flowers for May 3rd:

By Janet and Jim Goodman who will celebrate 53 years of marriage on May 5th.

By Sharon and James Gersch in honor of daughter Donna Taylor and Milton Bade on their birthday today.

Sunday Morning Bible Classes @ 10:15 a.m.
 Stay for coffee and cookies after the 9 a.m. worship service then join a Bible class!

Women’s Bible Study: “Life Lessons from Ephesians” – Led by Maria Keeling – Meets in the Library

“Study the Book of Mark” – Led by Pastor James Jennings – Meets in the Life Center



May 11th from 10 to 1 pm. For those of retirement age for fellowship and games, followed by devotion and potluck meal at noon. RSVP to Maria Keeling.

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